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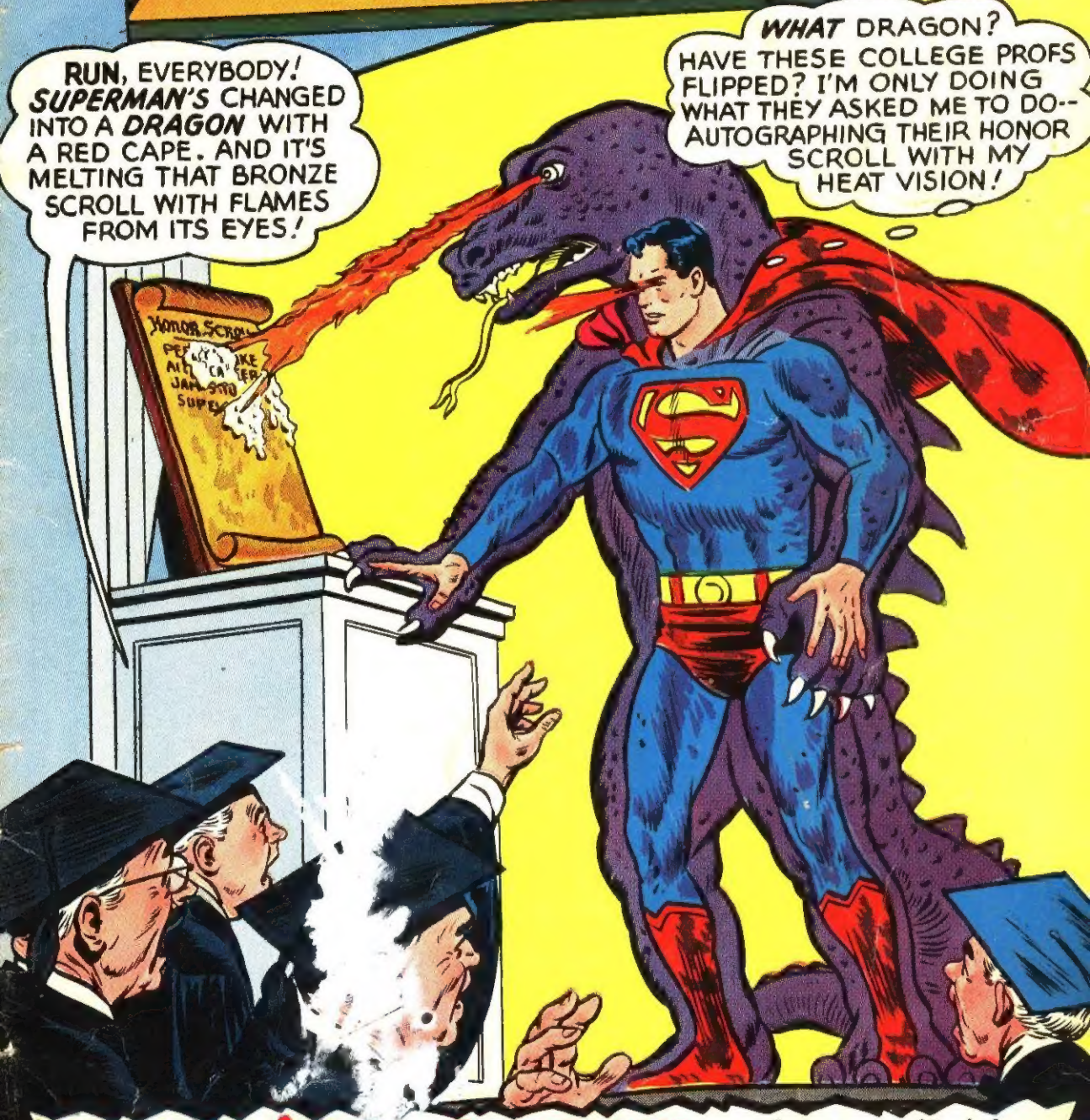
FEB.
NO. 333

ACTION COMICS

EXTRA!
'The DUEL
BETWEEN
SUPERWOMAN
And SUPERBOY!'

RUN, EVERYBODY!
SUPERMAN'S CHANGED
INTO A DRAGON WITH
A RED CAPE. AND IT'S
MELTING THAT BRONZE
SCROLL WITH FLAMES
FROM ITS EYES!

WHAT DRAGON?
HAVE THESE COLLEGE PROFS
FLIPPED? I'M ONLY DOING
WHAT THEY ASKED ME TO DO--
AUTOGRAPHING THEIR HONOR
SCROLL WITH MY
HEAT VISION!



IS THE MAN OF STEEL A SUPERMAN...
OR A SUPER-MONSTER?

The Verdict is
YOURS!

POLARIS

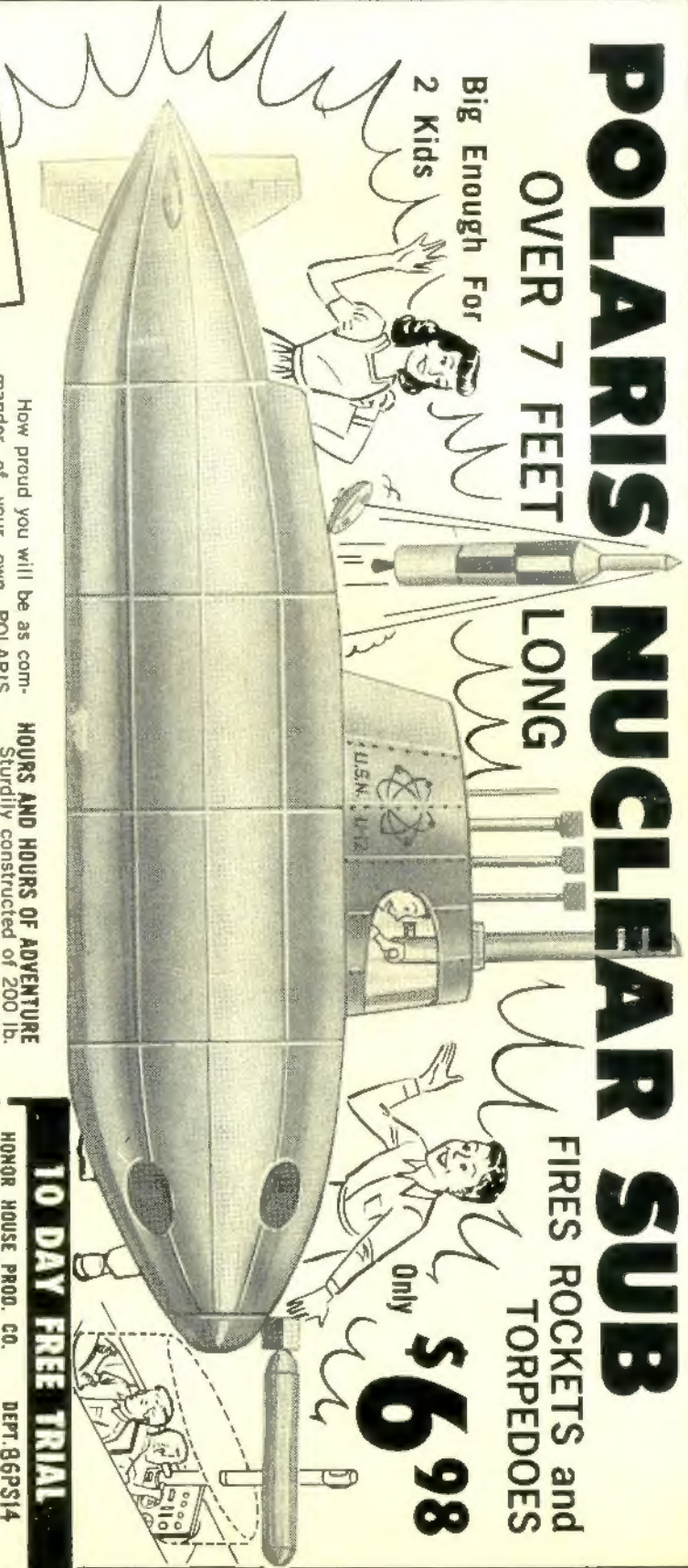
OVER 7 FEET LONG

NUCLEAR SUB

FIRES ROCKETS and TORPEDOES

Big Enough For
2 Kids

Only
\$6 98



SPECIAL FEATURES

- Over 7 feet long
- Seats 2 kids
- Controls that work
- Rockets that fire
- Real periscope
- Firing torpedoes
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How proud you will be as commander of your own POLARIS SUB—the most powerful weapon in the world! What hours of imaginative play and fun as you and your friends dive, surface, maneuver, watch the enemy through the periscope and fire your nuclear missiles and torpedoes! What thrills as you play at hunting sunken treasures in pirate waters and exploring the strange and mysterious bottom of the deep ocean floor!

HOURS AND HOURS OF ADVENTURE

Sturdily constructed of 200 lb. test fibreglass. Comes complete with easy assembly instructions. Costs only \$6.98 for this giant of fun, adventure and science. (Because of the POLARIS SUB's giant size we must ask for 75c shipping charges.)

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Order today and we will rush your POLARIS NUCLEAR SUB to you. Use it for 10 full days. If you don't think it is the greatest ever—the best toy you ever had—just send it back for full purchase price refund.

10 DAY FREE TRIAL

HONOR HOUSE PROD. CO. DEPT. 86PS14
LYNBROOK, NEW YORK

Rush me my POLARIS NUCLEAR SUB. I can use it for 10 days and if I am not delighted return it for full purchase price refund.

☐ SEND IT PREPAID. I enclose \$6.98 plus 75c to help cover shipping charges.

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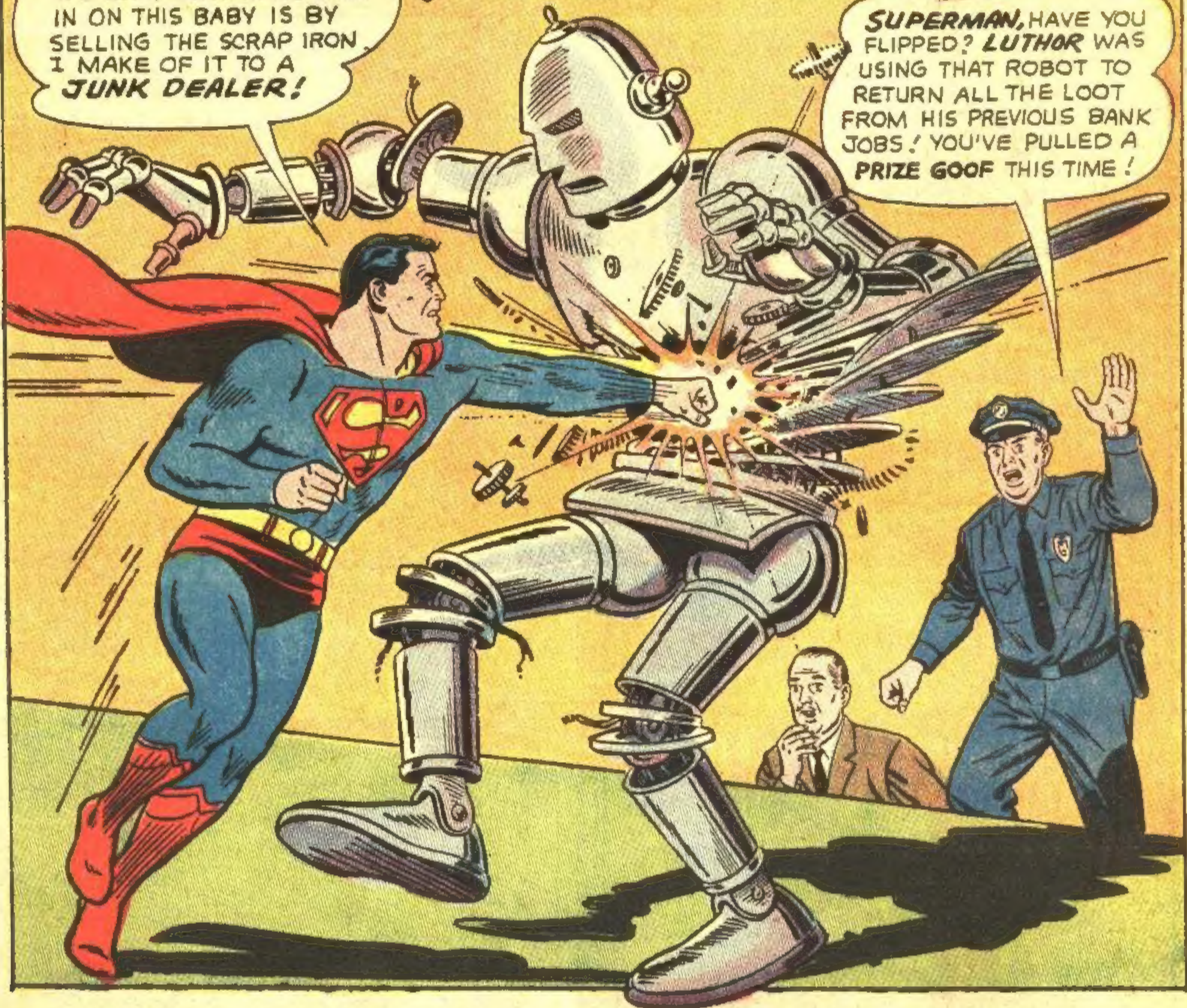
SUPERMAN

IF YOU WERE **SUPERMAN**, WHAT WOULD YOU EXPECT OF YOUR ARCH-FOE, CRIMINAL SCIENTIST **LEX LUTHOR**? YOU'D EXPECT JUST ABOUT ANYTHING, AS LONG AS IT WAS CROOKED -- RIGHT? AND YOU'D ACT ACCORDINGLY, TO THWART HIS PLOTS! THAT'S JUST WHAT **SUPERMAN** DOES -- ONLY TO FIND HIMSELF FOILING **GOOD DEEDS**! AND THAT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING OF THE STRANGEST BATTLE OF WITS IN THE ANNALS OF CRIME-FIGHTING, AS, TIME AND AGAIN, THE **MAN OF STEEL'S** FEATS RESULT IN...

"SUPERMAN'S **SUPER-BOO-BOOS!**"

SO **LUTHOR** HAS A ROBOT DOING HIS ROBBING FOR HIM, EH? THE ONLY WAY HE'LL CASH IN ON THIS BABY IS BY SELLING THE SCRAP IRON I MAKE OF IT TO A **JUNK DEALER**!

SUPERMAN, HAVE YOU FLIPPED? **LUTHOR** WAS USING THAT ROBOT TO RETURN ALL THE LOOT FROM HIS PREVIOUS BANK JOBS! YOU'VE PULLED A **PRIZE GOOF** THIS TIME!



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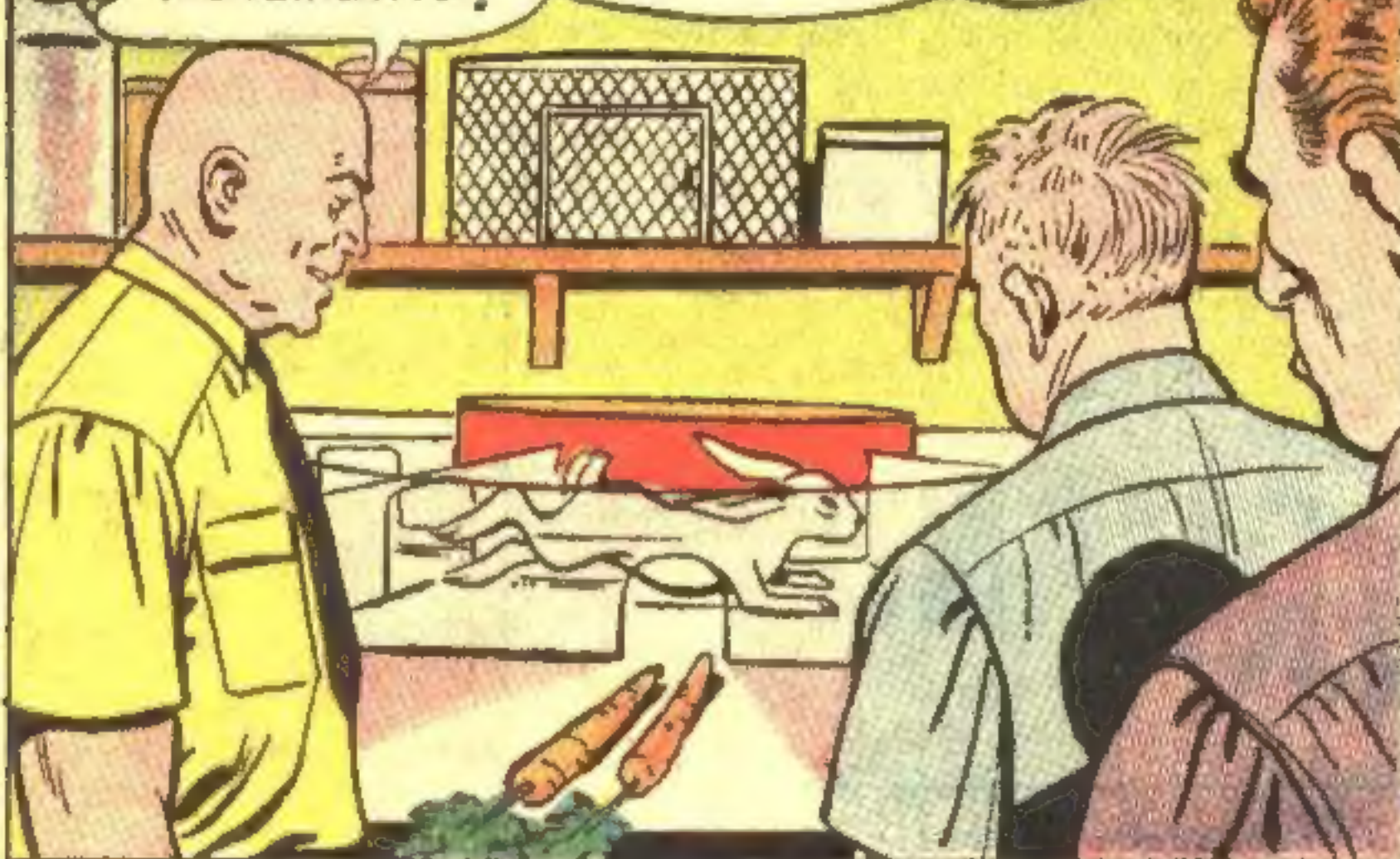
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IN THE ABANDONED PRISON WHICH IS HIS LAIR, **LEX LUTHOR**, CRIMINAL SCIENTIFIC GENIUS, COMPLETES AN EXPERIMENT...

OBSERVE THIS RABBIT! TRAPPED IN A MAZE, IT CAN'T GET AT ITS FOOD! THE CREATURE IS SO BAFFLED THAT ITS BRAIN HAS BEEN PERMANENTLY AFFECTED. IT HAS LOST CONTROL OF ITS MOVEMENTS!



NOW WATCH WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I TAKE THE RABBIT OUT OF THE MAZE AND PUT IT RIGHT NEAR THE CARROTS.

HE'LL GOBBLE THEM DOWN, OF COURSE!



LOOK! IT'S NOT TOUCHING THOSE CARROTS!

CORRECT! THE BRAIN DAMAGE HAS GONE TOO FAR! IN SPITE OF ITS HUNGER, THAT CREATURE IS CONDITIONED TO KEEP RUNNING AROUND AIMLESSLY!

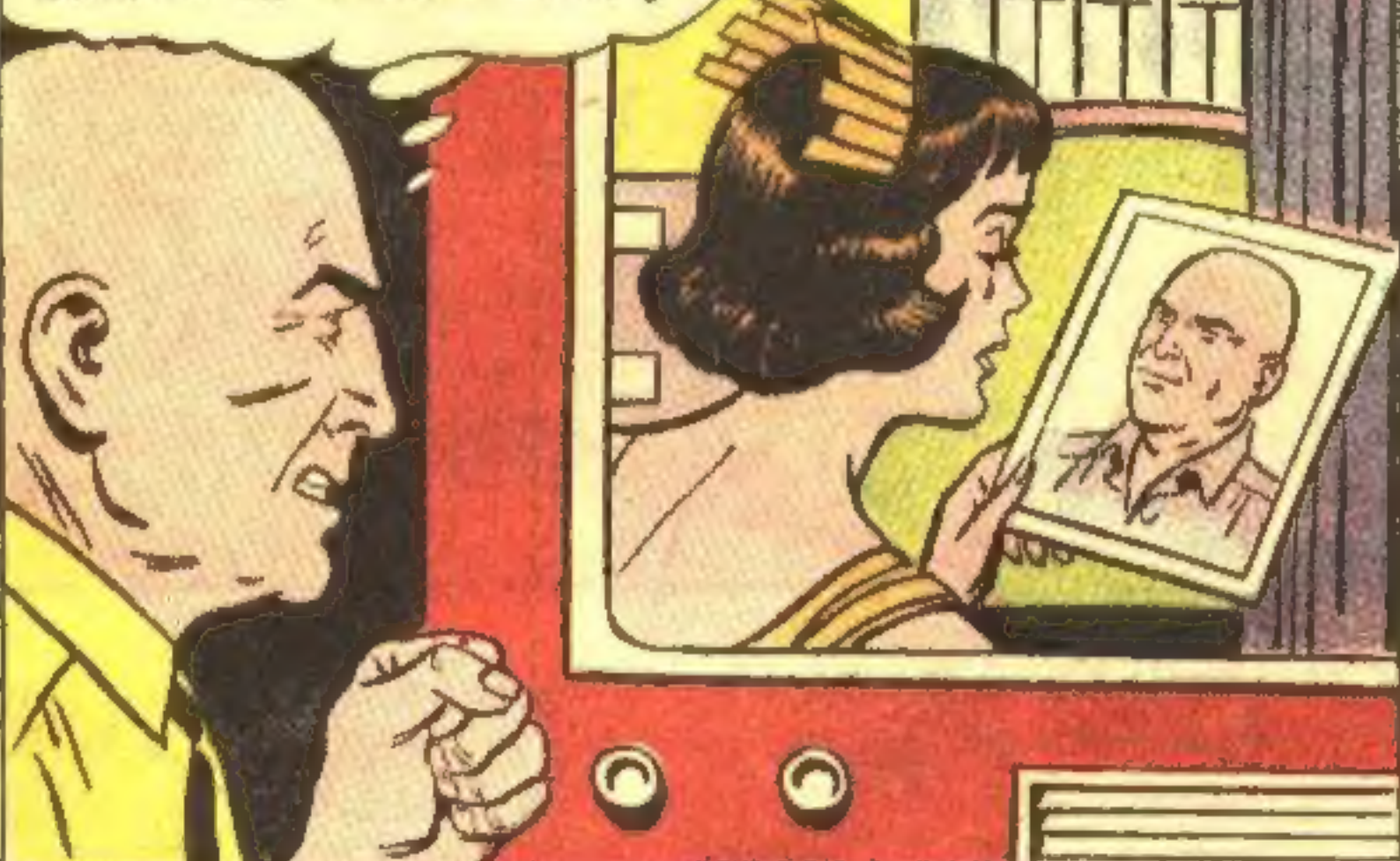


AND THAT'S WHAT I PLAN TO DO TO **SUPERMAN**. I'LL SHATTER HIS MENTALITY! I'LL USE PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE TO BRAINWASH HIM SO THAT HIS MIND WILL BE A COMPLETE BLANK! ... SO THAT HE WON'T KNOW IF HE'S COMING OR GOING!



AND AS **LUTHOR'S** MONITOR SCREEN TUNES IN ON THE PLANET **LEXOR**, FAR ACROSS SPACE...

MY WIFE, **ARDORA**! BECAUSE OF **SUPERMAN**, SHE DISCOVERED THAT I'M A CRIMINAL! BUT NOW THAT SUPER-RAT WILL PAY FOR BREAKING HER HEART!



LAST MONTH I BEGAN MY CAMPAIGN TO MAKE **SUPERMAN** CRACK UP BY SAVING HIS LIFE TWICE! HE'S PROBABLY GOING NUTS THIS VERY MOMENT, TRYING TO FIGURE OUT IF I'M HIS ENEMY OR HIS FRIEND!



AND AS LUTHOR'S MONITOR LOCATES SUPERMAN...

LOOK AT HIM... RACKING HIS BRAINS, WONDERING WHAT I'M UP TO! AND THAT'S JUST THE BEGINNING. HE'LL BE COMPLETELY OFF HIS ROCKER WHEN I'M FINALLY FINISHED WITH HIM! HA, HA!

LEX LUTHOR
WANTED

NEXT DAY, AS SCIENTISTS AT A RESEARCH INSTITUTE EXAMINE A SPECTACULAR WEAPON...

THIS IS THE **SUPER-SWORD OF KRYPTON**-- IT WAS MADE FROM A PIECE OF A METAL CALLED **KRYPTIUM** WHICH WAS HURLED INTO SPACE BY AN ATOMIC BLAST ON **KRYPTON** BEFORE IT EXPLODED. BUT WE CAN'T UNRAVEL THE METAL'S COMPOSITION, BECAUSE IT'S INDESTRUCTIBLE!

SUPERMAN IS COMING TO HELP US ANALYZE IT!

AS THE TESTS CONTINUE...

AMAZING! THIS METAL IS SO STRONG IT CAN SHEAR THROUGH A STEEL BEAM AS THOUGH IT WERE CHEESE!

IT SLICED THAT DIAMOND--THE HARDEST KNOWN SUBSTANCE--LIKE A MARSHMALLOW! SINCE HE, TOO, COMES FROM **KRYPTON**, **SUPERMAN** IS AS VULNERABLE TO THIS SWORD AS AN ORDINARY EARTHMAN IS TO FINE STEEL!

SUDDENLY, AN INTRUDER INVADERS THE LAB...

SO THIS SWORD IS TOUGHER THAN **SUPERMAN**, EH? IT'S JUST WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR.

THAT FELLOW ACTS LIKE A MADMAN! BUT DON'T WORRY! **SUPERMAN** WILL BE HERE AT ANY MOMENT!

HOWEVER, AS THE MAN OF STEEL ARRIVES...

TOM VANCE...! ULP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT SUPER-SWORD?

I'M HERE TO PAY YOU BACK FOR PUTTING MY BROTHER, "TRIGGER" VANCE, IN PRISON! TRY TO STOP ME AND THIS BOTTLE OF NITRO BLOWS UP THE LAB!

REMEMBER, **SUPERMAN**... IF I TRY TO GRAB HIM, HE MAY DROP THE NITRO AND KILL THOSE TWO SCIENTISTS. WH-WHAT A SPOT!

YOU'RE NOT INVULNERABLE TO THIS SWORD! NOW BEG FOR YOUR LIFE... CRAWL!... CRAWL!

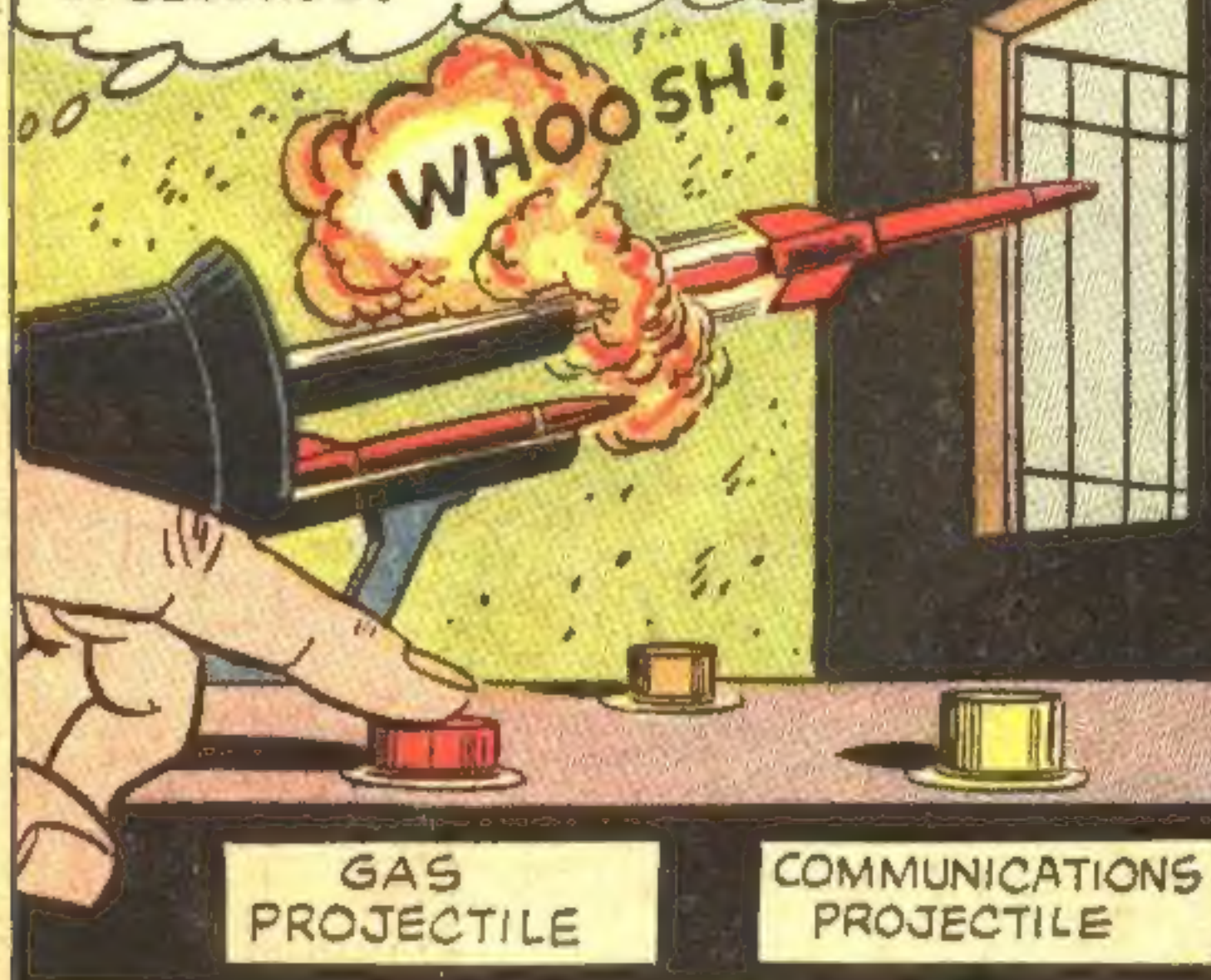


BUT **LEX LUTHOR** HAS BEEN WATCHING ON HIS MONITOR, AND NOW...

AH-HA! **SUPERMAN** IS IN ANOTHER JAM! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO BAFFLE AND BEWILDER HIM--ONCE MORE!

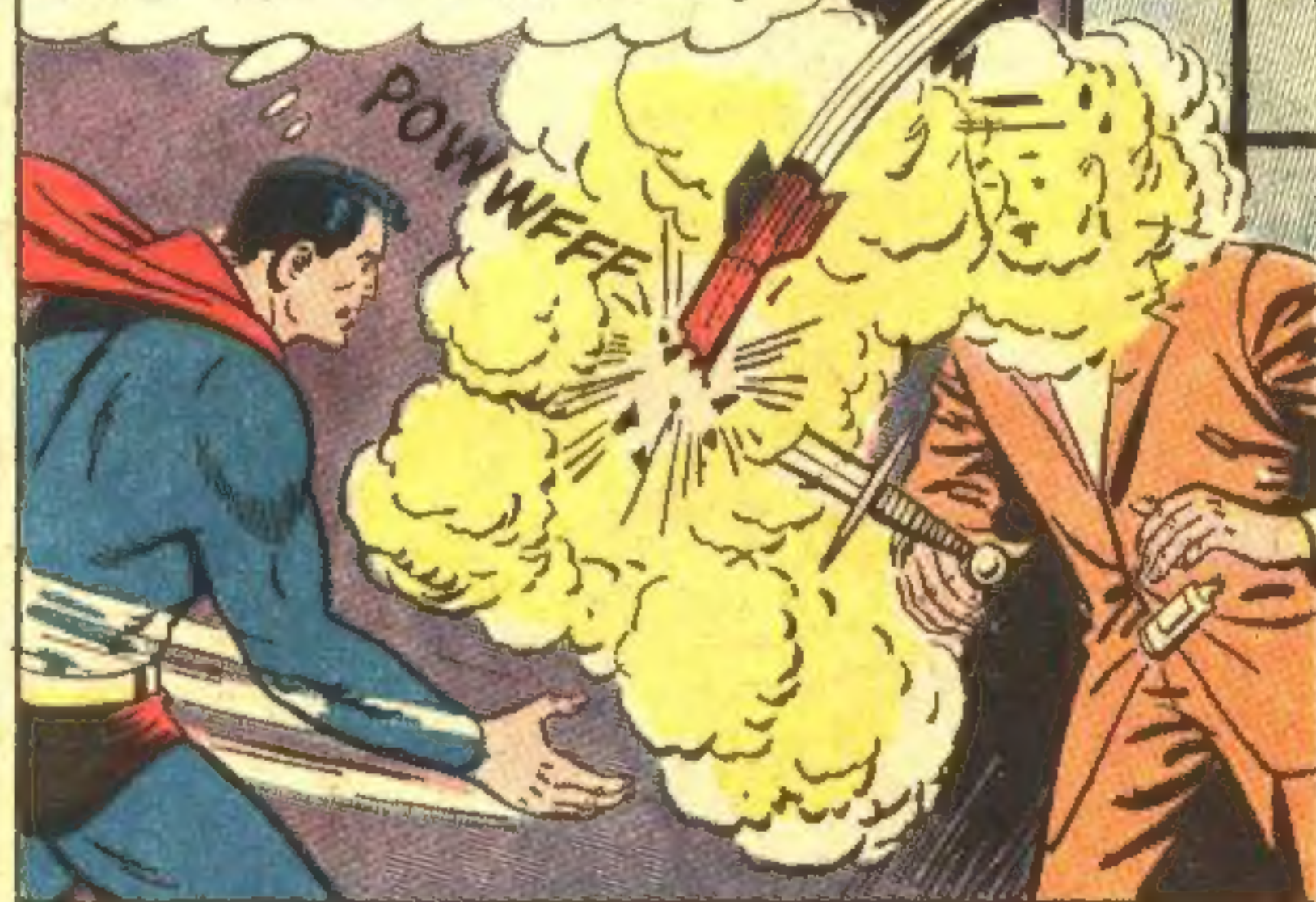


I'LL LAUNCH ONE OF MY INTERCEPTOR PROJECTILES. AN EXACT RADAR FIX WILL GUIDE IT RIGHT TO THE LAB IN SECONDS!



INSTANTS LATER, AT THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE...

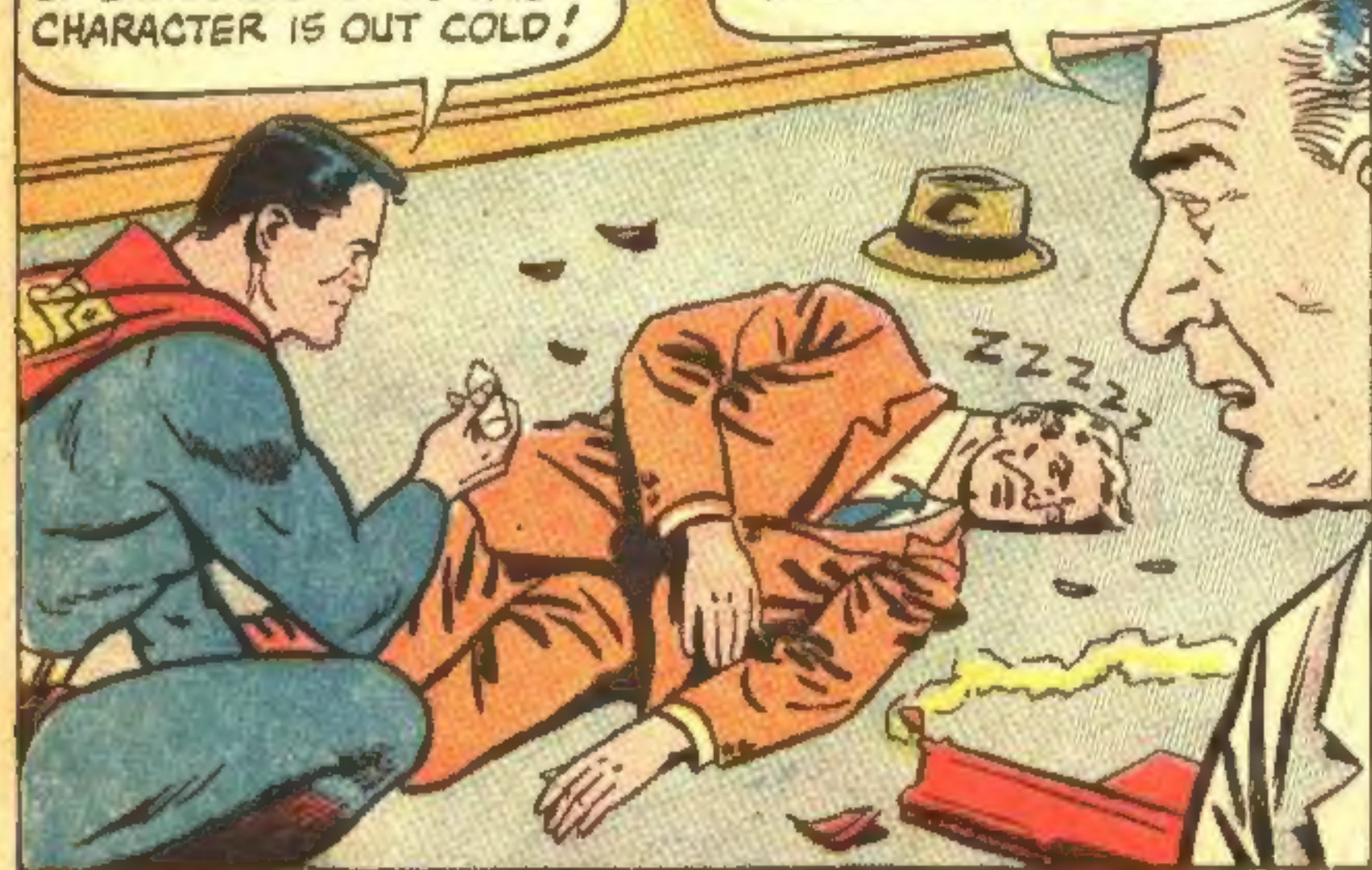
SOME KIND OF PROJECTILE... IT SEEMS TO HAVE KNocked OUT VANCE!... ULP!! GOT TO GRAB THAT FALLING NITRO!



AT SUPER-SPEED, **SUPERMAN** SNATCHES THE DEADLY BOTTLE...

I'VE GOT THIS NITRO! HMM... THAT STRANGE PROJECTILE CONTAINED A SMALL CHARGE OF SLEEPING GAS. THIS CHARACTER IS OUT COLD!

HE COULD HAVE KILLED YOU WITH THE SWORD! WHERE DID THAT MISSILE COME FROM?



PRESENTLY, **SUPERMAN** FINDS THE ANSWER...

GREAT KRYPTON! PARTS OF THE GAS MISSILE... WITH **LUTHOR'S** INSIGNIA! THEN HE SAVED MY LIFE A **THIRD TIME!** BUT HE'S MY DEADLY ENEMY! WHY IS HE DOING THIS?



HA! MY PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE IS BEGINNING TO BREAK HIM DOWN. BUT I'VE ONLY BEGUN TO BEDEVIL YOU, **SUPERMAN!** YOU DON'T KNOW IT, BUT YOU'RE DOOMED! **DOOMED!**



NEXT DAY, **SUPERMAN** ATTENDS GRADUATION CEREMONIES AT **METROPOLIS ENGINEERING COLLEGE...**

--AND AS A TRIBUTE TO ALL HE'S DONE FOR HUMANITY, WE GRANT **SUPERMAN** THE HONORARY DEGREE OF **DOCTOR OF SUPER-SCIENCE...** AND NOW HE WILL USE HIS HEAT VISION TO CARVE HIS NAME ON OUR SCROLL OF HONOR!



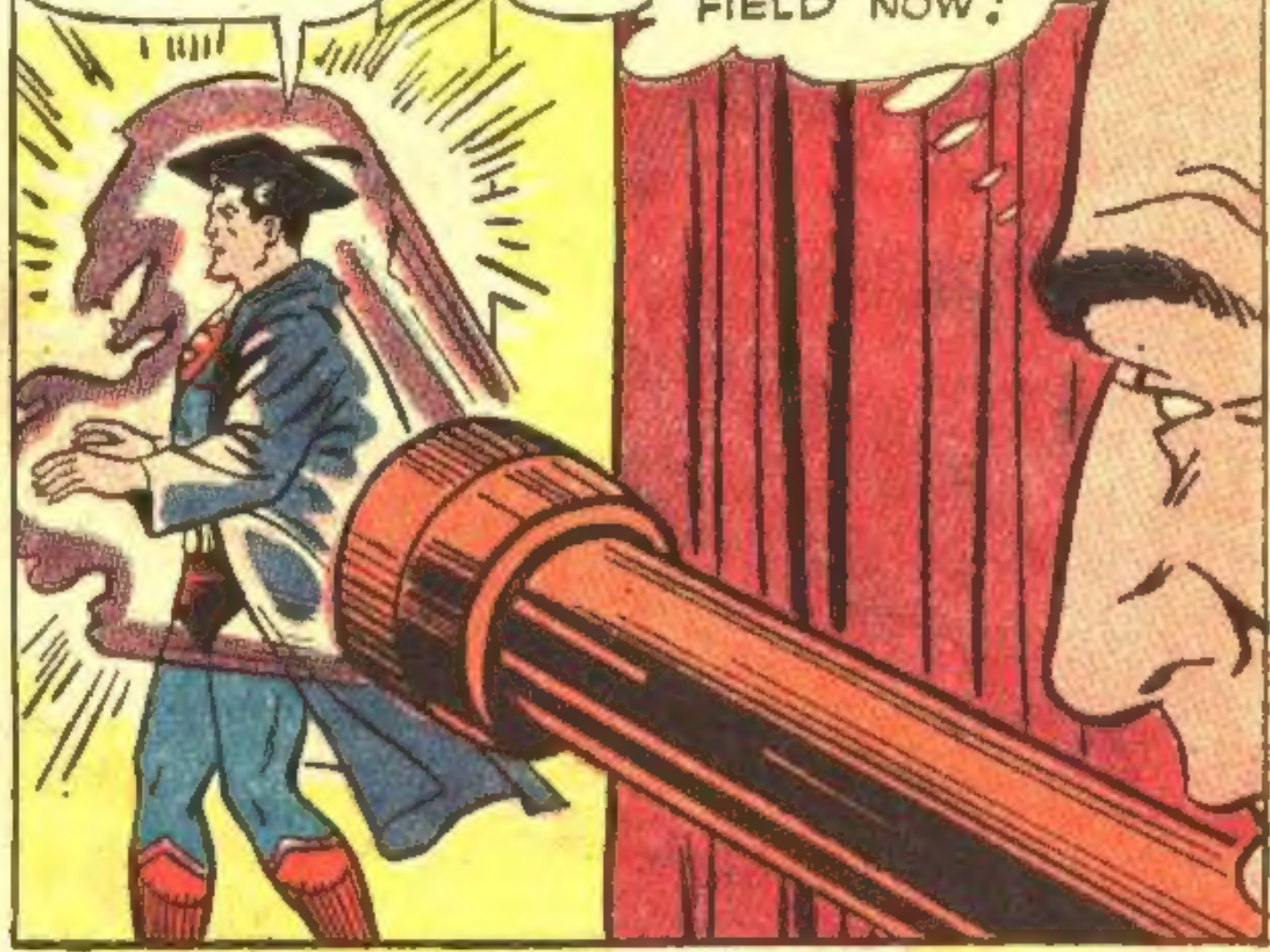
BUT AN EVIL FIGURE IS LURKING IN THE WINGS...

IF MY **ICONOSCOPE** WORKS CORRECTLY, THE MONSTER PICTURE ON THIS TRANSPARENT SLIDE WILL BE PROJECTED AS A THREE-D IMAGE THAT WILL CLING TO **SUPERMAN** LIKE HIS OWN SKIN!



THANK YOU, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!

IT'S WORKING!...THERE'S THE AURA OF THE POLARIZED MAGNETIC FIELD NOW!



A STARTLING INSTANT LATER...

AND NOW I'LL CARVE MY NAME ON THE SCROLL WITH MY HEAT VISION!

YIIII! **SUPERMAN** TURNED INTO A MONSTER BEFORE OUR EYES!

ITS EYES ARE SPOUTING JETS OF FLAME! I'M GETTING OUT HERE!



BUT WEIRDLY, **SUPERMAN** REMAINS UNAWARE OF HIS OWN SEEMING TRANSFORMATION...

HEY, WHAT GOES ON HERE? WHY IS EVERYONE RUNNING FROM ME?

YE GODS! A FLYING **SUPER-MONSTER** WITH A CAPE! AND HE'S AFTER US! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

ONE MAN REFUSES TO PANIC...REPORTER JIMMY OLSEN...

SUPERMAN... MY BEST PAL... TURNED INTO A FANTASTIC MONSTER! IT MUST BE SOME TEMPORARY **RED KRYPTONITE** EFFECT THAT WILL WEAR OFF... BUT THIS WILL MAKE A GREAT SCOOP FOR THE **DAILY PLANET**.

I'M FRIGHTENING THEM MORE THAN EVER! I'D BETTER LEAVE!

AND AS THE GROTESQUE FIGURE ZOOMS TO THE HORIZON...

NOW TO SHUT OFF MY **ICONOSCOPE**. THE PROJECTED MONSTER IMAGE WILL DISSOLVE. HA, HA! **SUPERMAN** WILL GO NUTS TRYING TO FIGURE THIS OUT!

SOON, AS A NERVE-WRACKED **SUPERMAN** SLIPS INTO HIS CLARK KENT APARTMENT...

WHEW! WHAT A RELIEF! I WAS ALMOST AFRAID TO LOOK INTO A MIRROR! THAT CROWD NEARLY HAD ME CONVINCED I'D TURNED INTO A MONSTER! ... IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME WEIRD KIND OF MASS HYPNOSIS!

BUT LATER, WHEN **SUPERMAN** REPORTS TO THE **PLANET** IN HIS SECRET IDENTITY OF CLARK KENT...

CLARK... YOU MISSED IT! I SAW **SUPERMAN** BECOME A MONSTER. LOOK AT THESE PICTURES!

UHP!! THEN I **DID** CHANGE! THE CAMERA DOESN'T LIE!

CLARK! YOU LOOK SHAKY!
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING
TOO HARD. BETTER
TAKE THE REST OF THE
WEEK OFF.

ER... THANKS, PERRY.

HOW COULD I TURN INTO A
MONSTER WITHOUT KNOWING
IT? IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN
A **RED K** EFFECT... OR I
WOULD HAVE FELT THE USUAL
WARNING TINGLE! I GUESS
I DO NEED A VACATION, AT
THAT!

SWITCHING TO **SUPERMAN**, HE HEADS OUT INTO SPACE...

YES, THE STRAIN OF THESE LAST FEW DAYS IS
GETTING TO BE TOO MUCH FOR EVEN MY SUPER-
NERVES. IS IT POSSIBLE THAT I'M HEADED FOR
A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN, EVEN IF I AM A
SUPER-MAN? I THINK I'LL HEAD FOR SOME FAR-
OFF WORLD WHERE I CAN FORGET MY PROBLEMS
FOR A FEW DAYS AND RELAX.

SOON, ON A REMOTE
PLANET...

AH! LYING ON THESE CLOUD
PLANTS IS LIKE FLOATING
ON AIR. AND THE WIND MAKES
SUCH SOOTHING MELODIES
AS IT BLOWS THROUGH THOSE
HARMONO-ROCKS. JUST THE
THING TO RELAX MY
TENSE NERVES.

THEN, A FEW DAYS LATER, IN LUTHOR'S LAIR...

HEY, **LUTHOR**!
THERE'S **SUPERMAN**
COMING BACK TO
METROPOLIS!

HA, HA! I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR THAT
SUPER-RAT! I'VE
GOT A WELCOME
ALL PREPARED!

AND AS **SUPERMAN** MAKES HIS FIRST PATROL...

GREAT KRYPTON! A GIANT ROBOT,
WEARING **LUTHOR'S** INSIGNIA...MY X-RAY
VISION CAN'T PENETRATE THAT METAL
BALL IT'S CARRYING! IT MUST BE A
BOMB, SHIELDED WITH LEAD!...DESIGNED
TO BLAST OPEN THE BANK'S
MONEY VAULT!

CONTINUED ON 352 PAGE FOLLOWING.

The INVISIBLE HANDICAP!



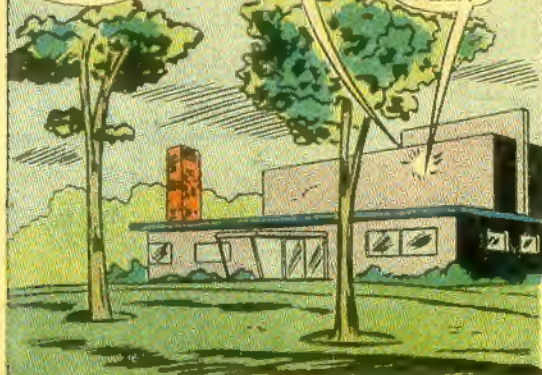
YOU'RE RIGHT--SOMETHING *IS* WRONG WITH HIM. YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ACTED THAT WAY IF HE WERE BLIND OR LAME... SOMETHING YOU COULD SEE. BUT THIS NEW BOY HAPPENS TO HAVE A HANDICAP THAT'S **INVISIBLE**--DAMAGE TO PART OF THE BRAIN...



THERE ARE MORE LIKE HIM THAN MOST PEOPLE REALIZE... BECAUSE OF FAULTY PERCEPTION, HE DOESN'T SEE OR DO THINGS QUITE AS YOU DO, AND WE'RE TRYING TO HELP HIM ADJUST...



THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE MADE FUN OF HIM--OR **ANYBODY** WHO HAS "SOMETHING WRONG" WITH HIM.



SEVERAL MONTHS LATER...
GEE, TOD, THAT'S GREAT! PRETTY SOON, **YOU'RE** GOING TO HAVE TO HELP **US**!



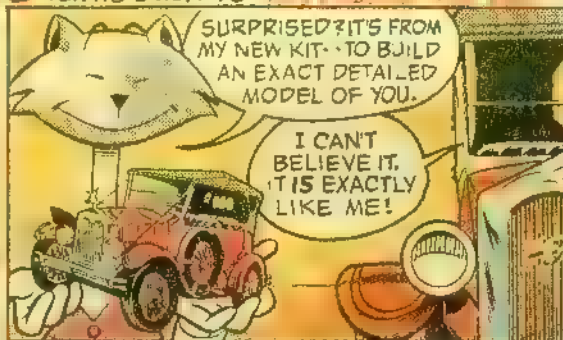
The **KAT** talks back to "My Mother The Car" ©

Visiting NBC TV

FROM AMT

GETS A DOUBLE-TAKE from

"My Mother The Car"



OH, IT'S NICE TO KNOW SOMEONE CARES OFF TV, TOO.

CAR BUILDERS'LL LOVE MY MOTHER THE CAR" WHEN THEY SEE THE REAL-LOOKING PARTS.

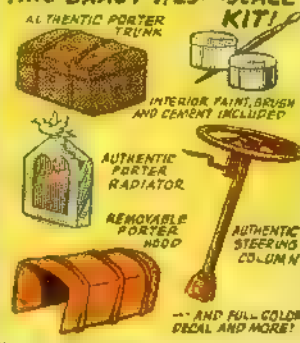


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THE ENGINE IS JUST LIKE MINE! IT MAKES ME WONDER HOW AMT DOES IT!



... YOU GET THESE AUTHENTIC PARTS IN THIS EXACT 1/25TH SCALE KIT!



HEY, GUYS!

BE THE FIRST TO GET AMT'S AUTHENTIC KIT OF "MY MOTHER THE CAR" AT YOUR HOBBY OR DEPARTMENT STORE,

\$1.50

ONLY AMT MAKES IT!

AMT CORPORATION
BOX 81
TROY, MICHIGAN

DC's IMMORTAL 6!

RETURN IN THEIR MOST SHATTERING COMBAT TALES!... IN EXPLOSIVE ACTION THAT MAKES A TYPHOON JUST A TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT!

DC's MIGHTY 6!

ADMIRER EVEN BY THE ENEMY!

DC's SIZZLING 6!

EASY CO.'S SGT. ROCK!
THE "HAUNTED TANK'S" JEB STUART!
NAVAJO ACE JOHNNY CLOUD!
MUD MARINES GUNNER & SARGE with POOCH!
THE UNDERGROUND FIGHTER WITH 7/7 IN HER LIPSTICK-- Mlle. MARIE.



DON'T MISS THIS BATTLE BONUS BLOCKBUSTER!

ON SALE DEC. 16th



SUPERMAN INTERCEPTS THE ROBOT!

DO NOT ATTACK! I AM PROGRAMMED TO RESIST ALL INTERFERENCE WITH MY MISSION!

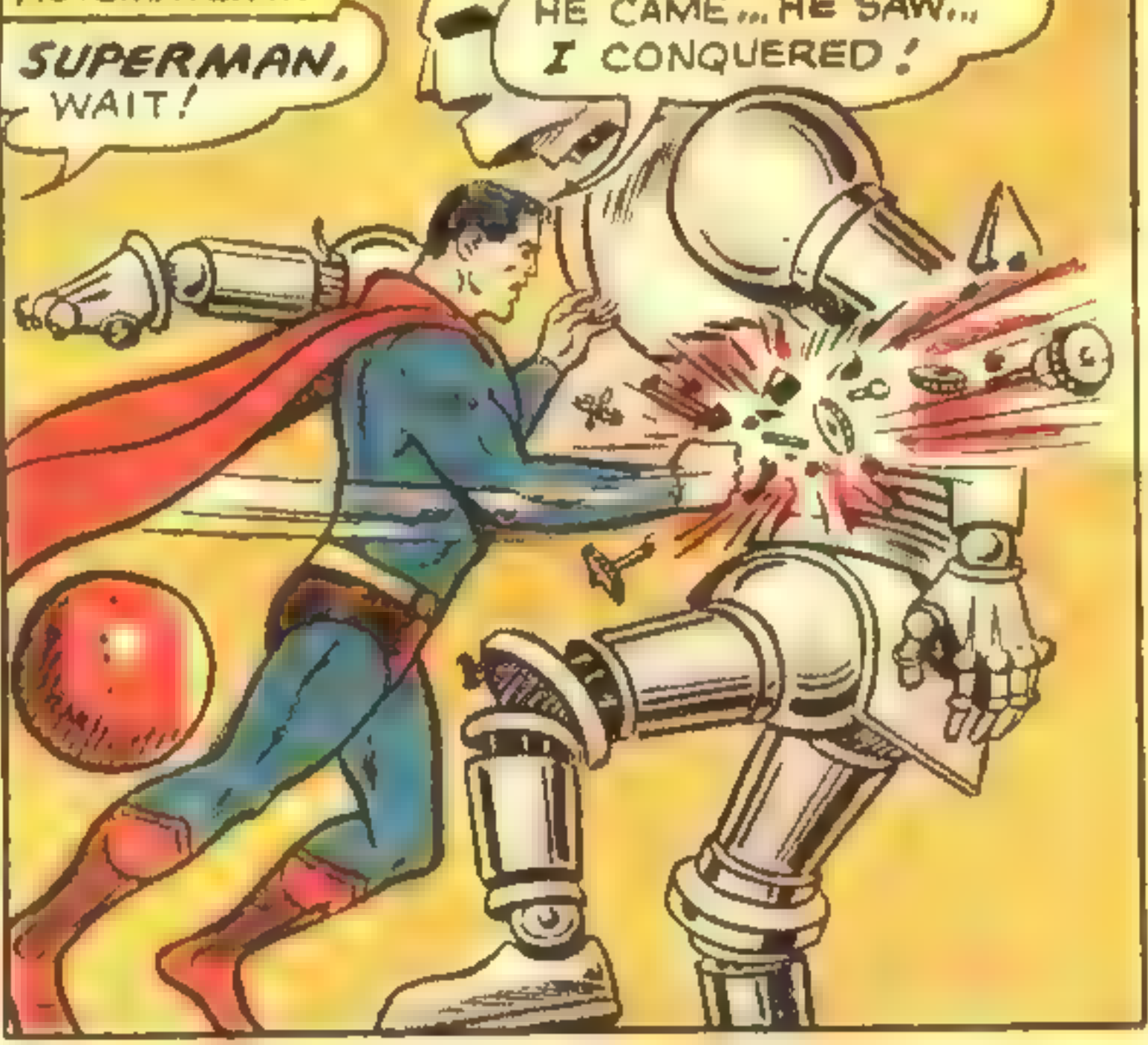
NOT WHEN YOUR MISSION IS TO DELIVER A BOMB, C.O.D. BY HITTING ME, YOU'RE ONLY GIVING YOURSELF A RATHER EXTREME MANICURE!

A large, silver, humanoid robot with a red visor and a bomb on its chest is attacking Superman. Superman is in a defensive stance, dodging the robot's attacks. The robot has a speech bubble that says "DO NOT ATTACK! I AM PROGRAMMED TO RESIST ALL INTERFERENCE WITH MY MISSION!". Superman has a speech bubble that says "NOT WHEN YOUR MISSION IS TO DELIVER A BOMB, C.O.D. BY HITTING ME, YOU'RE ONLY GIVING YOURSELF A RATHER EXTREME MANICURE!".

AS SUPERMAN CLASHES WITH THE TITANIC AUTOMATON...

SUPERMAN, WAIT!

HE CAME... HE SAW... I CONQUERED!

Superman is shown in a dynamic pose, dodging a large, red, spherical object. A large, mechanical arm is reaching out towards him. Superman has a speech bubble that says "SUPERMAN, WAIT!". The mechanical arm has a speech bubble that says "HE CAME... HE SAW... I CONQUERED!".

BUT WHEN THE ROBOT IS DISMANTLED...

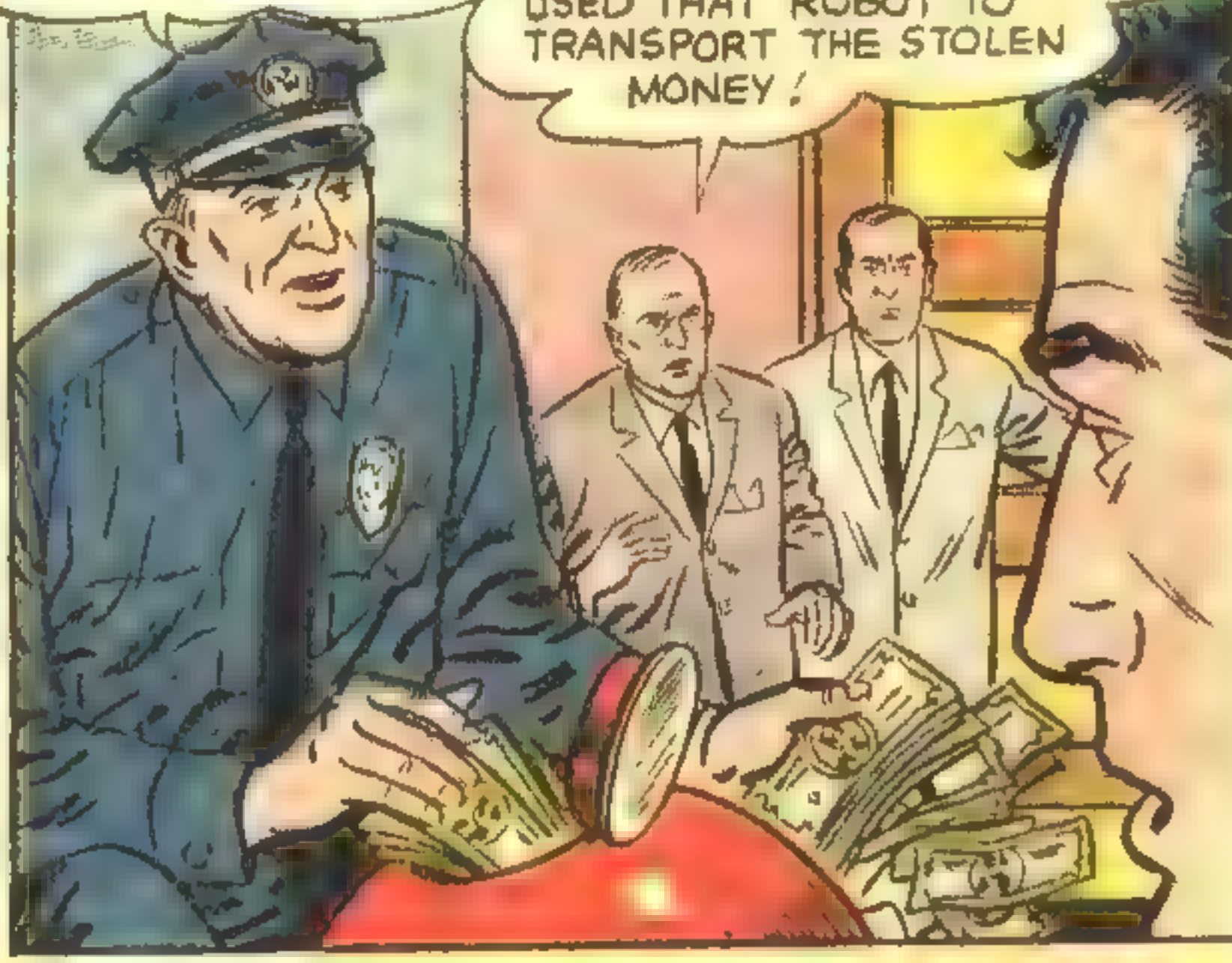
DON'T TOUCH THAT BOMB! I'LL TAKE IT TO A SAFE PLACE!

SUPERMAN, I TRIED TO EXPLAIN! YOU MADE A BAD MISTAKE! HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU!

Superman is shown in a dynamic pose, dodging a large, red, spherical object. A police officer is looking at him with a concerned expression. Superman has a speech bubble that says "DON'T TOUCH THAT BOMB! I'LL TAKE IT TO A SAFE PLACE!". The police officer has a speech bubble that says "SUPERMAN, I TRIED TO EXPLAIN! YOU MADE A BAD MISTAKE! HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU!".

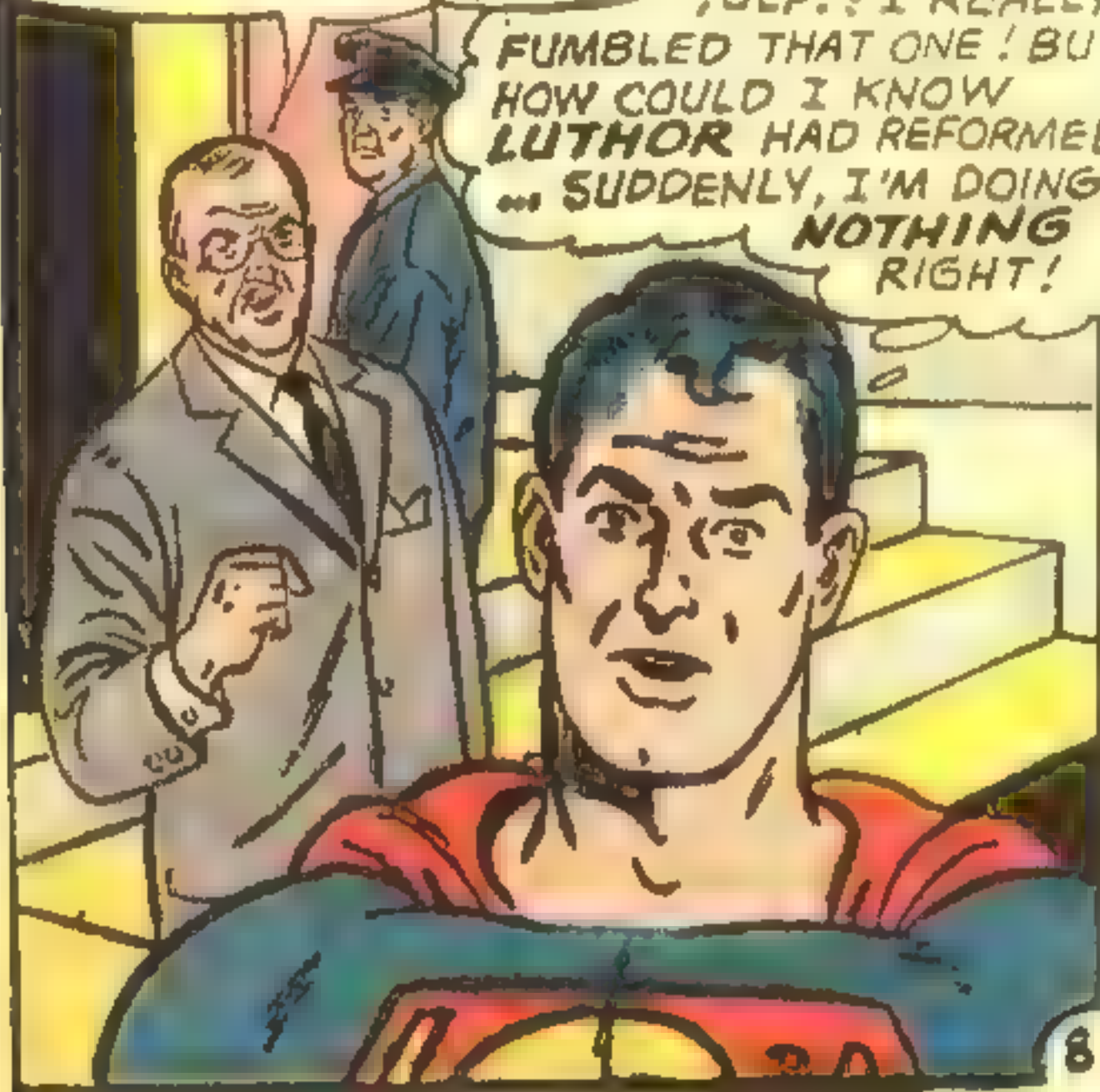
THIS IS A PORTABLE VAULT. IT CONTAINS THE LOOT FROM A BIG BANK ROBBERY!

WHILE YOU WERE AWAY, LUTHOR BEGAN RETURNING THE PLUNDER HE TOOK FROM ALL HIS BANK HOLDUPS... HE USED THAT ROBOT TO TRANSPORT THE STOLEN MONEY!

A police officer is shown in a dynamic pose, holding a large, red, spherical object. Two men in suits are standing behind him, looking on with concern. The police officer has a speech bubble that says "THIS IS A PORTABLE VAULT. IT CONTAINS THE LOOT FROM A BIG BANK ROBBERY!". One of the men in suits has a speech bubble that says "WHILE YOU WERE AWAY, LUTHOR BEGAN RETURNING THE PLUNDER HE TOOK FROM ALL HIS BANK HOLDUPS... HE USED THAT ROBOT TO TRANSPORT THE STOLEN MONEY!".

BUT NOW THAT YOU DESTROYED HIS ROBOT, THAT'S PROBABLY THE LAST OF THE LOOT WE'LL EVER SEE! YOUR RECKLESSNESS HAS COST US MILLIONS!

...SULP! I REALLY FUMBLERED THAT ONE! BUT HOW COULD I KNOW LUTHOR HAD REFORMED? ... SUDDENLY, I'M DOING NOTHING RIGHT!

Superman is shown in a dynamic pose, looking distressed. A man in a suit is standing behind him, looking on with concern. Superman has a speech bubble that says "...SULP! I REALLY FUMBLERED THAT ONE! BUT HOW COULD I KNOW LUTHOR HAD REFORMED? ... SUDDENLY, I'M DOING NOTHING RIGHT!".

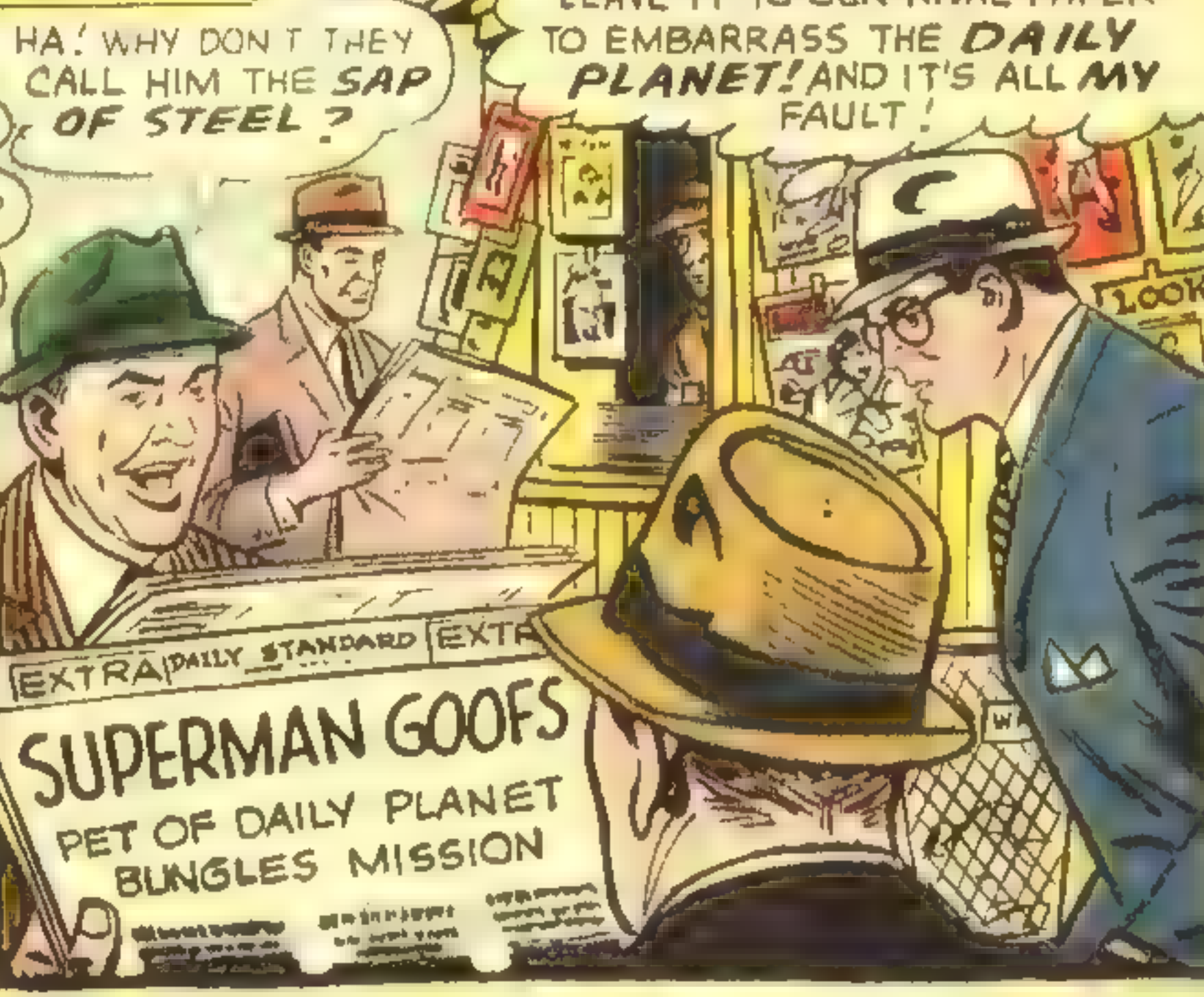
LATER, WHEN SUPERMAN SWITCHES TO HIS CLARK KENT IDENTITY...

HA! WHY DON'T THEY CALL HIM THE SAP OF STEEL?

LEAVE IT TO OUR RIVAL PAPER TO EMBARRASS THE DAILY PLANET! AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT!

EXTRA DAILY STANDARD EXTRA

SUPERMAN GOOFS
PET OF DAILY PLANET
BUNGLES MISSION

Clark Kent is shown in a dynamic pose, looking distressed. A man in a suit is standing behind him, looking on with concern. Clark Kent has a speech bubble that says "HA! WHY DON'T THEY CALL HIM THE SAP OF STEEL?". The man in the suit has a speech bubble that says "LEAVE IT TO OUR RIVAL PAPER TO EMBARRASS THE DAILY PLANET! AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT!". A newspaper headline reads "EXTRA DAILY STANDARD EXTRA" and "SUPERMAN GOOFS PET OF DAILY PLANET BUNGLES MISSION".

HEARTSICK, **SUPERMAN** RETREATS TO A LONELY MOUNTAIN TOP, WHERE **LUTHOR** SPOTS HIM...

LOOK AT HIM! HE CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY EVERYTHING'S GOING WRONG! HE'S SO PUNCHY, HE'S READY TO THROW IN THE TOWEL. NOW FOR THE KNOCKOUT BLOW!... I'LL CONTACT HIM VIA MY **LEX-O-PHONE**!



SOON...

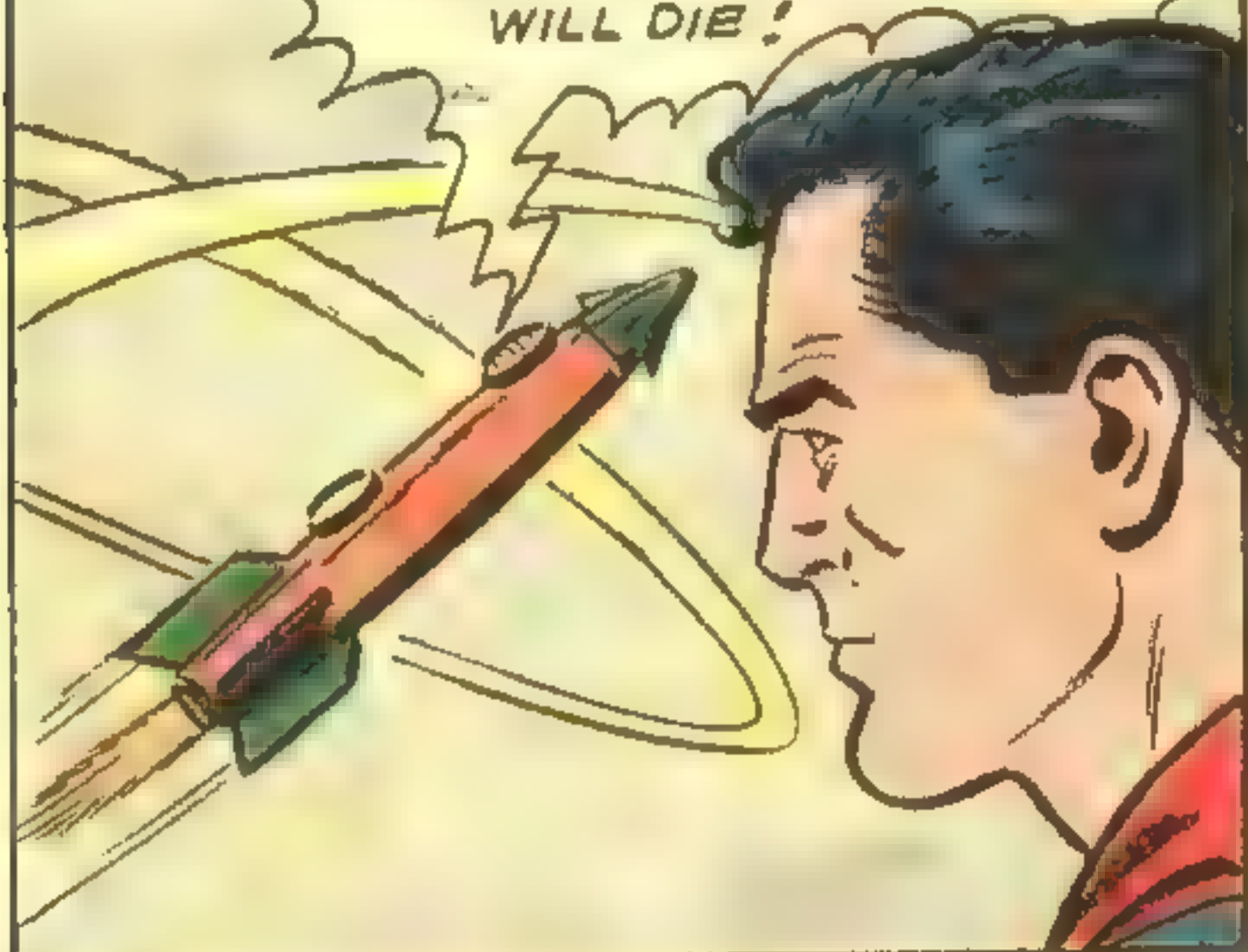
ATTENTION, **SUPERMAN**! THIS IS **LUTHOR** SPEAKING THROUGH MY TWO-WAY **LEX-O-PHONE**! YOU KNOW I AIDED YOU BEFORE... WILL YOU LISTEN TO ME?

IT'S TRUE, **LUTHOR**. YOU'VE PROVEN YOU'RE MY FRIEND-- I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU NOW!

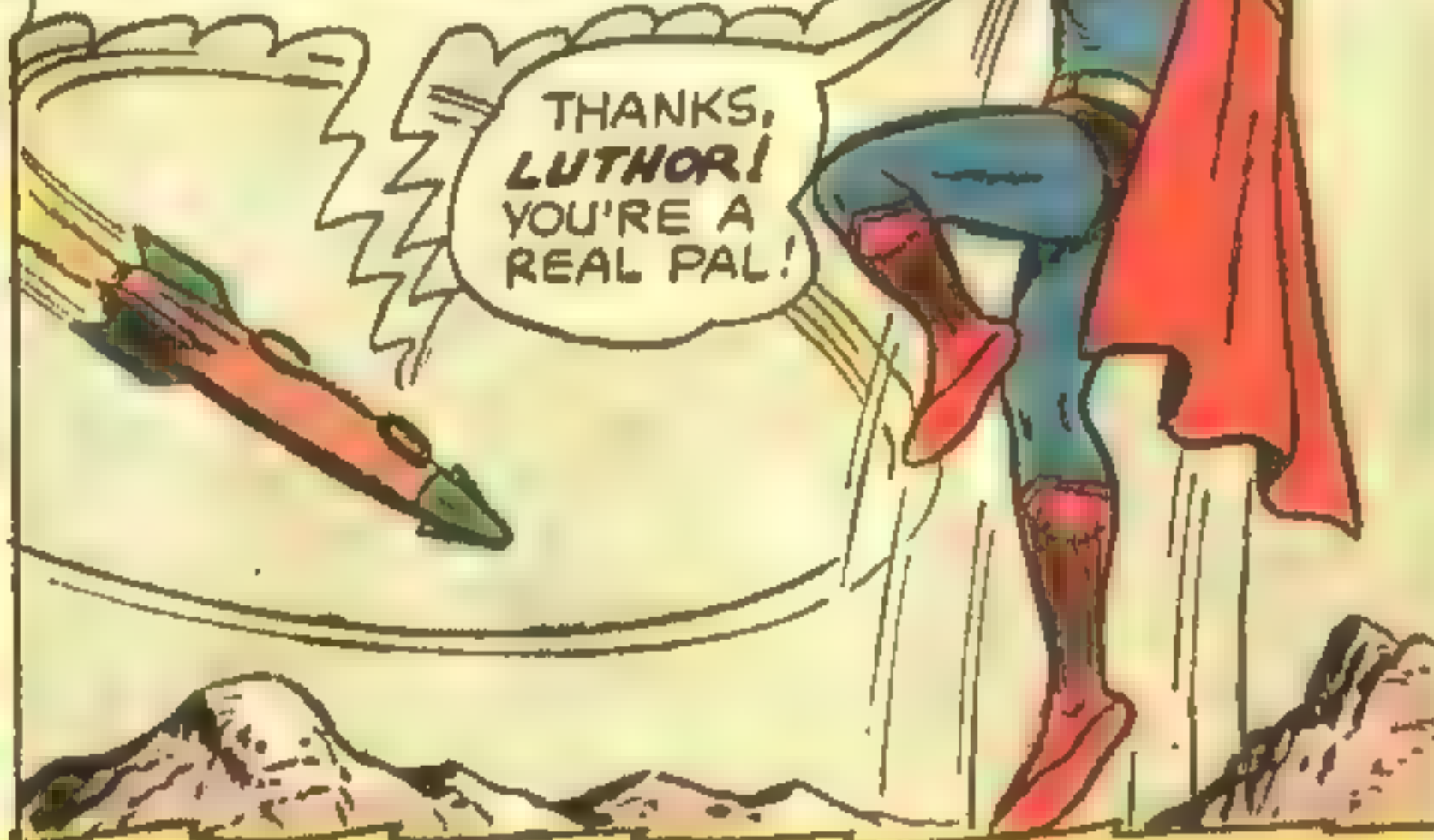


LISTEN! MY MONITOR HAS DETECTED A RUNAWAY TRAIN ON THE **SOUTHWEST RAILROAD**! ITS SEALED CARS ARE FILLED WITH RADIOACTIVE ATOMIC WASTES. IF THAT TRAIN IS WRECKED, THE ENTIRE AREA WILL BE CONTAMINATED... MILLIONS WILL DIE!

FLY THE TRAIN TO THE PLANET VENUS, WHERE THE RADIOACTIVE CARGO CAN'T HARM ANYONE... AND YOU'LL BE THE WORLD'S GREATEST HERO ONCE MORE!



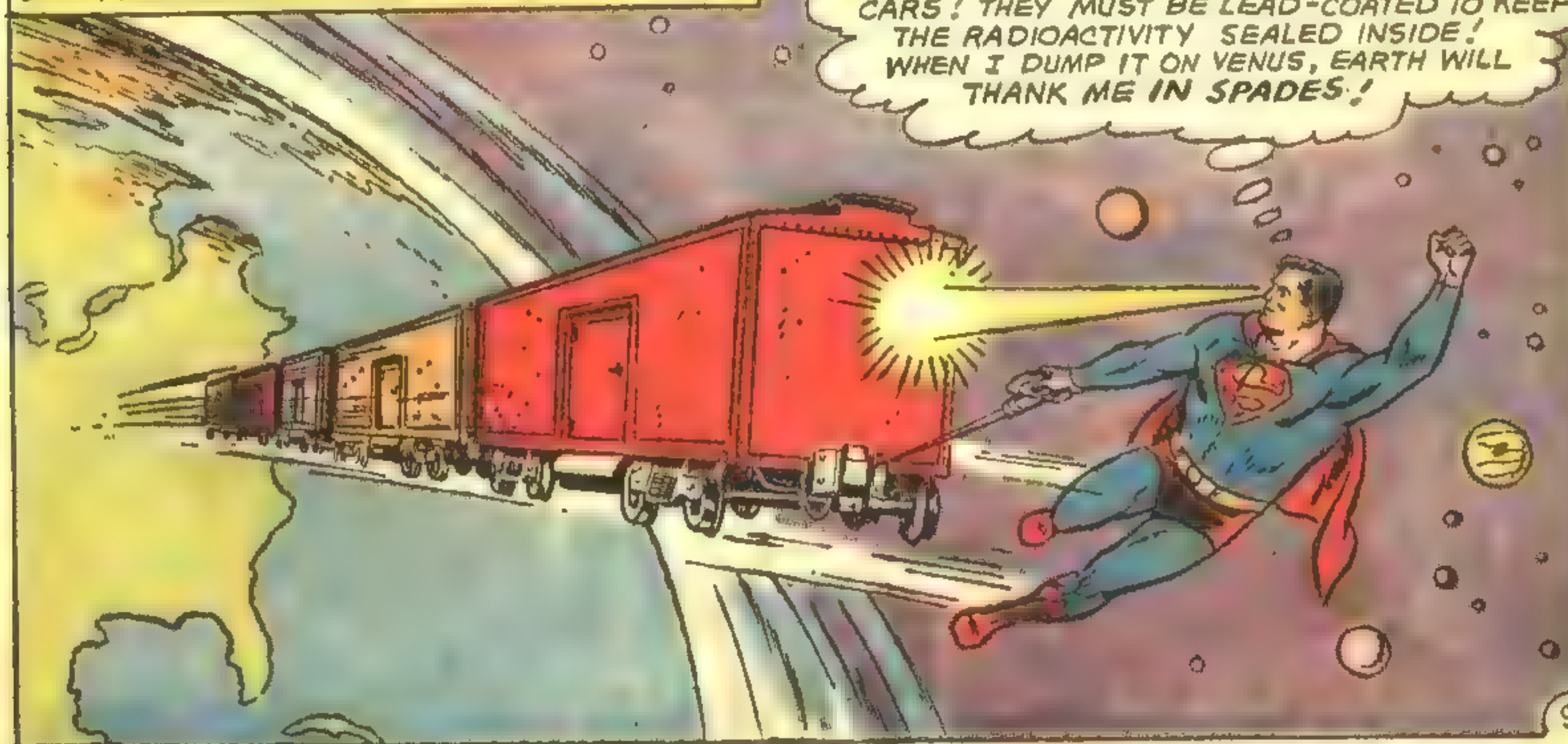
THANKS, **LUTHOR**! YOU'RE A REAL PAL!



WATCH IT, **SUPERMAN**. YOU'RE FLYING INTO A TREACHEROUS **LUTHOR** TRAP!

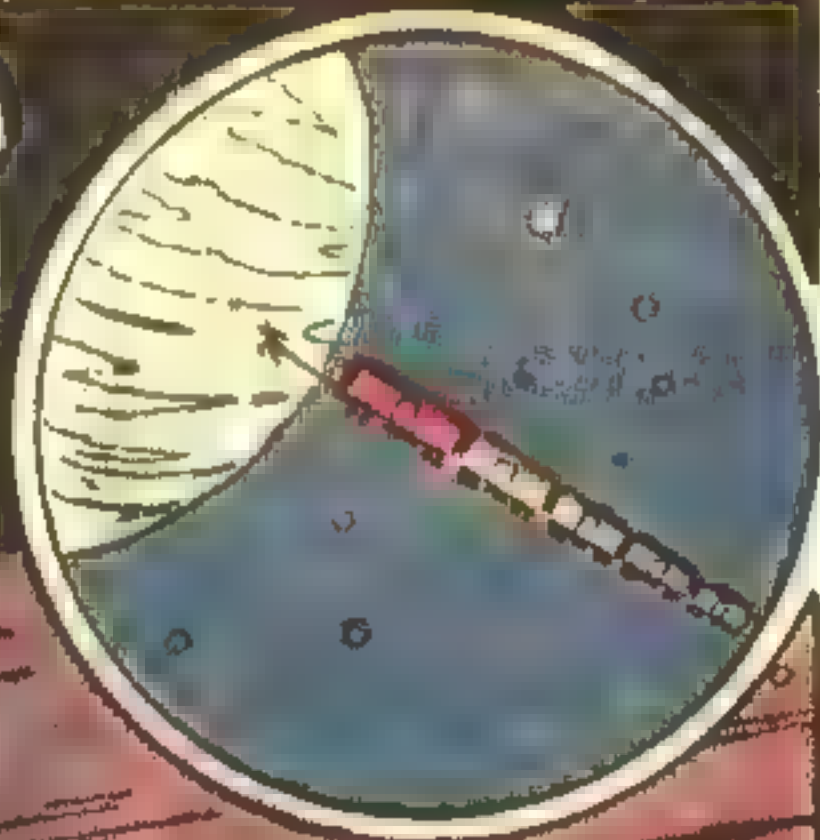
SOON, **SUPERMAN** HURTTLES OUT INTO SPACE...

MY X-RAY VISION CAN'T PENETRATE THOSE CARS! THEY MUST BE LEAD-COATED TO KEEP THE RADIOACTIVITY SEALED INSIDE! WHEN I DUMP IT ON VENUS, EARTH WILL THANK ME IN SPADES!



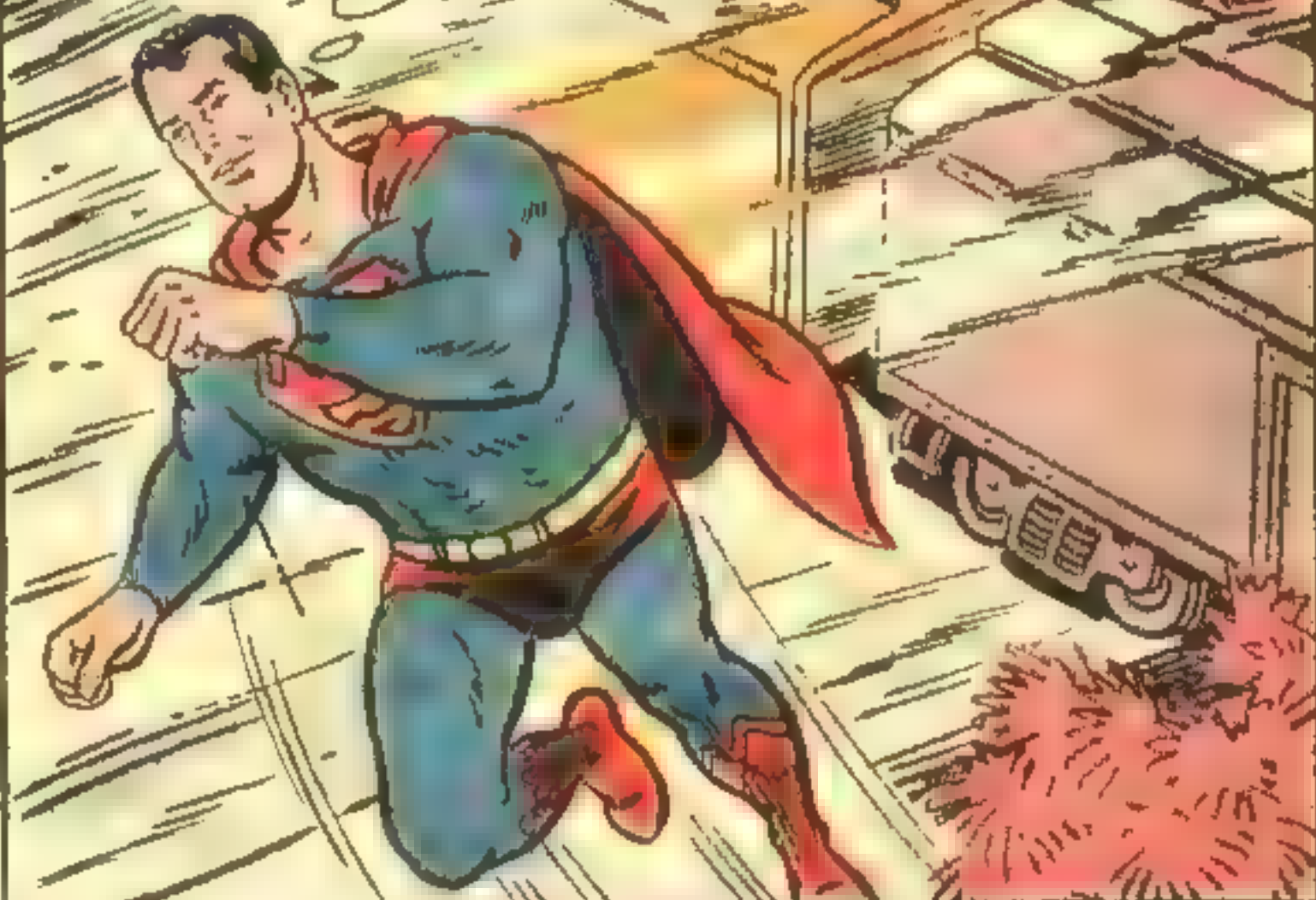
MEANWHILE, EARTH'S ASTRONOMERS WATCH IN ASTONISHMENT...

YE GODS! **SUPERMAN** IS FLYING A TRAIN THROUGH SPACE... HEADED RIGHT FOR VENUS! NO ONE WILL EVER BELIEVE US!



PRESENTLY, THE SPACE JOURNEY ENDS...

THERE! I'VE SAVED THE WORLD FROM A FRIGHTFUL DISASTER! NOW TO HURRY BACK AND GIVE THE **DAILY PLANET** THE EXCLUSIVE STORY!



BUT AS **SUPERMAN** DEPARTS...

SACRE BLEU! WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO THE **INTERNATIONAL POLICE CONVENTION**... AND SUDDENLY WE ARE ON THIS WEIRD PLANET!

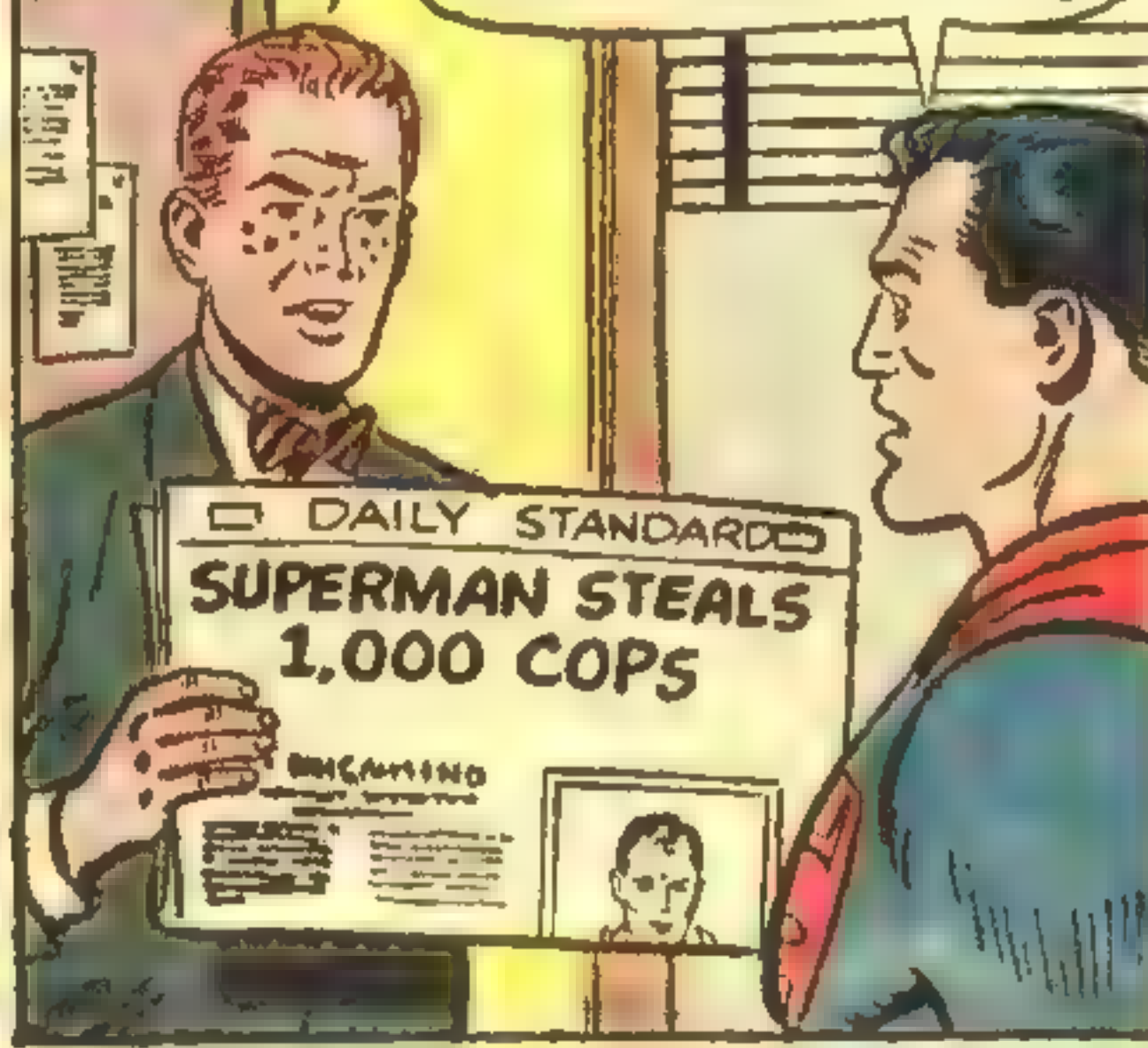
I SAY, CHAPS! I'LL WAGER IT WAS THAT **SUPERMAN** BLOKE WHO BROUGHT US HERE! DON'T YOU AMERICANS NOW CALL HIM THE... ER... **SIMPLETON OF STEEL?**



SOON, AT THE **DAILY PLANET**...

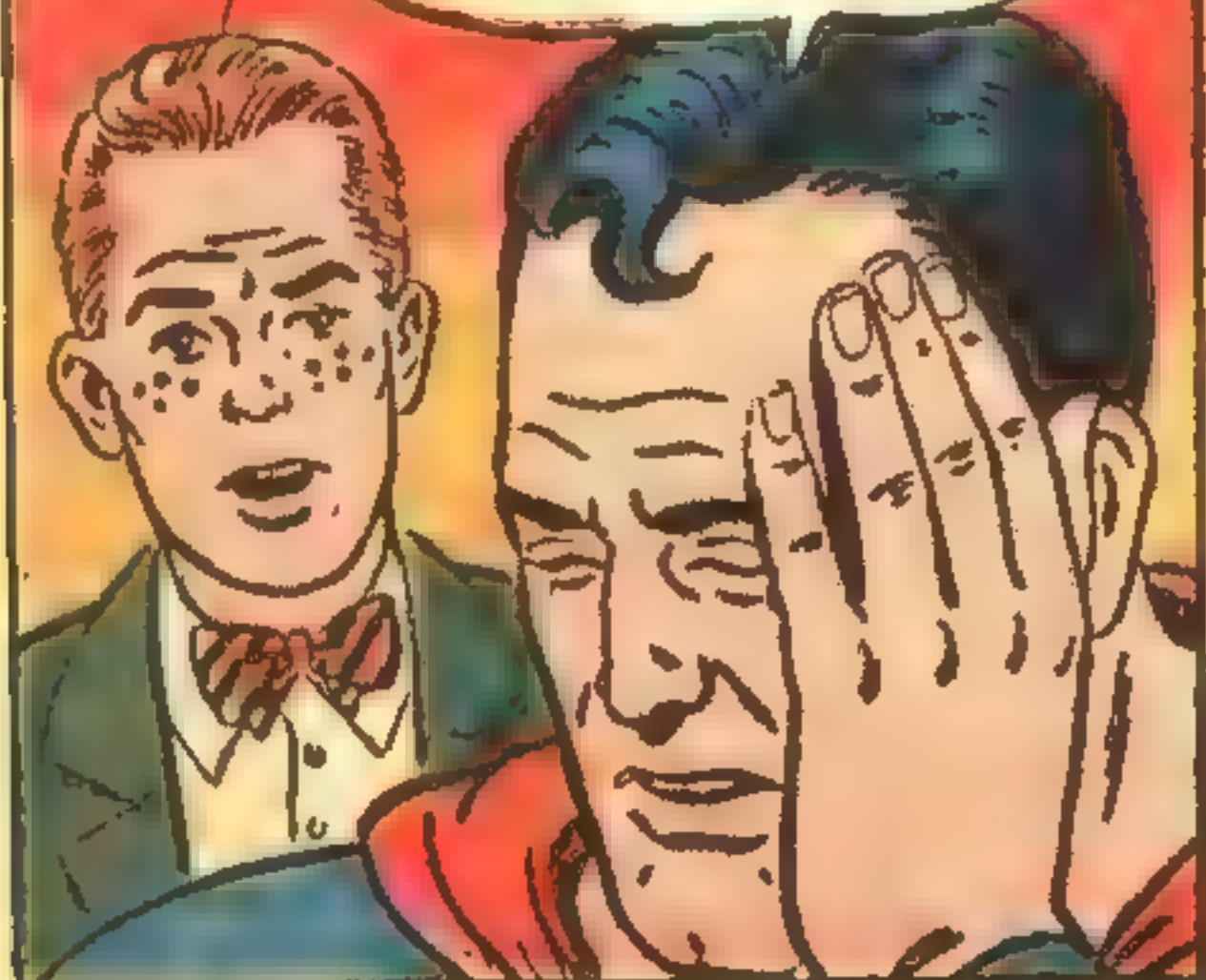
SUPERMAN! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? JUST LOOK AT THIS HEADLINE!

WHAT? IS THIS A JOKE? HAS THE WHOLE WORLD GONE CRAZY?



THAT TRAIN YOU FLEW TO VENUS CONTAINED TOP POLICE FROM MANY NATIONS ON THEIR WAY TO A CONVENTION. THE CARS WERE SEALED TO PROTECT THEM FROM POSSIBLE ATTACK BY CRIMINALS!

AND I KIDNAPPED THEM! OH, NO! I'LL FLY THEM BACK AT ONCE!

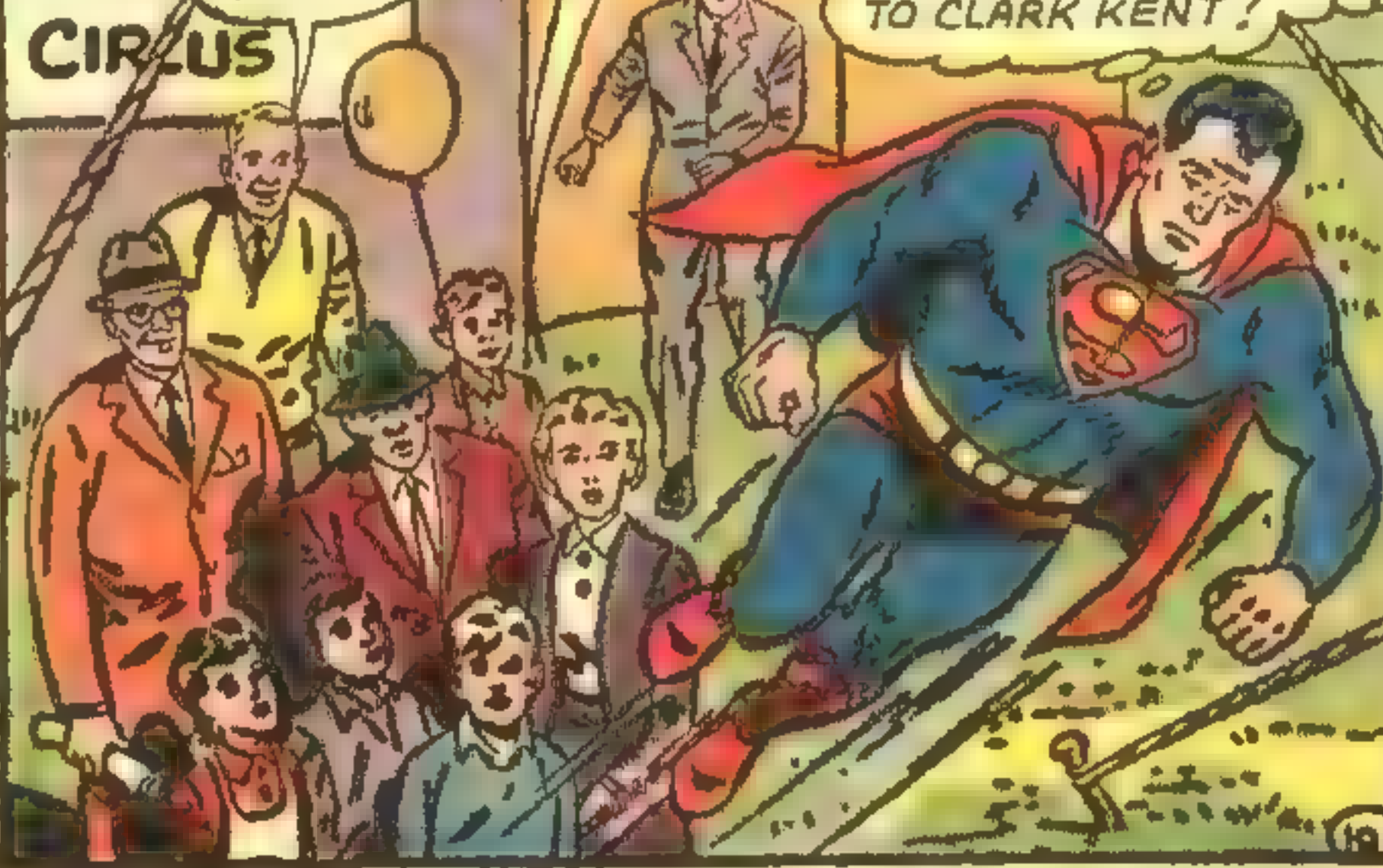


BUT THOUGH THE POLICE TRAIN IS RETURNED TO EARTH, **SUPERMAN** BECOMES A LAUGHING-STOCK...

TALK ABOUT CIRCUSES! THERE'S **SUPERMAN**, THE FUNNIEST CLOWN OF THEM ALL...

TO THINK THAT I USED TO DREAM OF HAVING A DATE WITH HIM!

I'M ASHAMED TO WEAR THIS COSTUME! I'LL SWITCH TO CLARK KENT!



NOT EVEN BEING IN HIS SECRET IDENTITY HELPS!

MISTER, WILL YOU PLEASE SIGN THIS PETITION ASKING **SUPERMAN** TO GET OUT OF TOWN?

ER--OKAY!

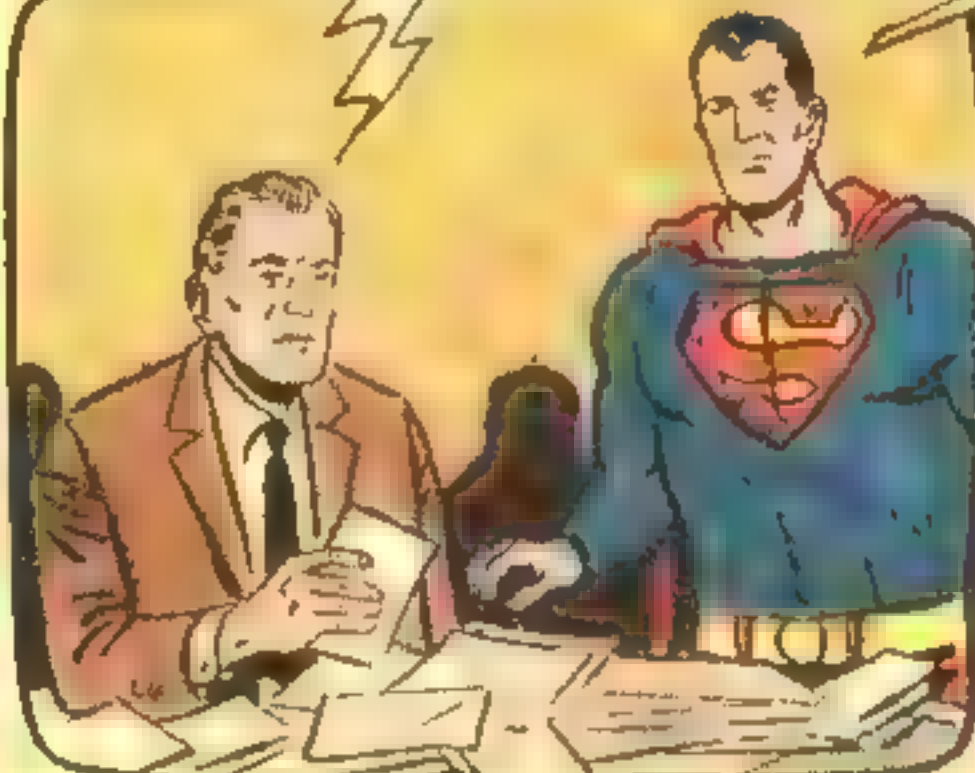
WE DEMAND THAT **SUPERMAN** LEAVE METROPOLIS!

G-GOOD GRIEF! I'M SO CONFUSED AND UNNERVED THAT I JUST SIGNED A PETITION FOR MY OWN EXILE! THEN WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT ME IS REALLY TRUE! I'M CRACKING UP!

A FEW DAYS LATER, ON A NATIONAL TV HOOK UP...

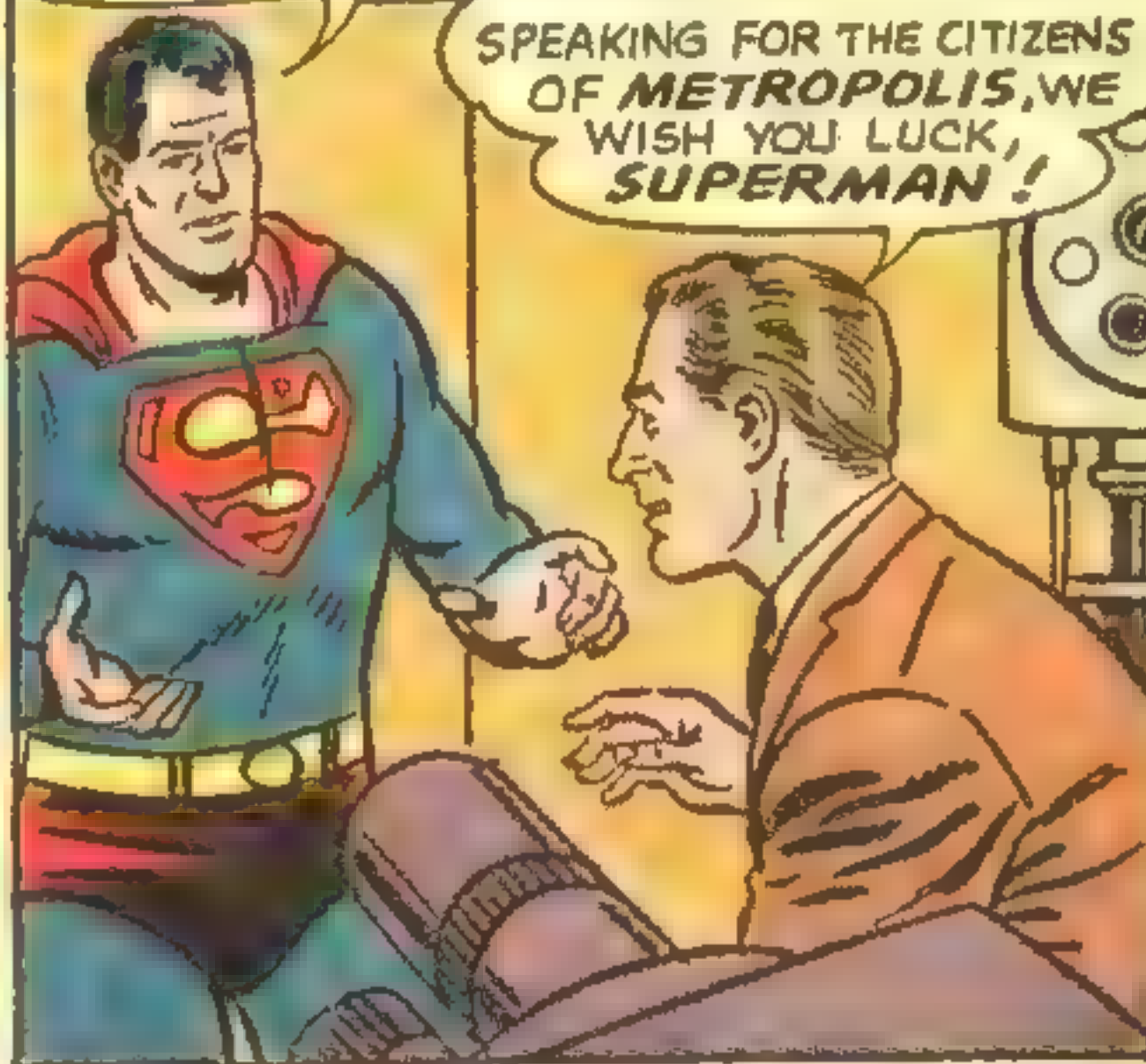
FOLKS, FOR DAYS NOW, WE'VE BEEN SWAMPED WITH CALLS, LETTERS AND PETITIONS DEMANDING THAT **SUPERMAN** ABANDON METROPOLIS, BUT I THINK IT'S UNFAIR TO TURN AGAINST HIM NOW, WHEN HE'S IN TROUBLE! DOESN'T ANYONE REMEMBER HIS SUPERB RECORD AS THE WORLD'S GREATEST HERO?

NO, DON'T PLEAD FOR ME. I'VE SOMETHING TO SAY!



FRIENDS, ALL I ASK IS **ONE LAST CHANCE** TO PROVE MYSELF!... I PROMISE THAT IF I CAN'T PREVENT THE NEXT MAJOR CRIME OR CATASTROPHE IN METROPOLIS, I'LL HANG UP MY CAPE AND RETIRE!

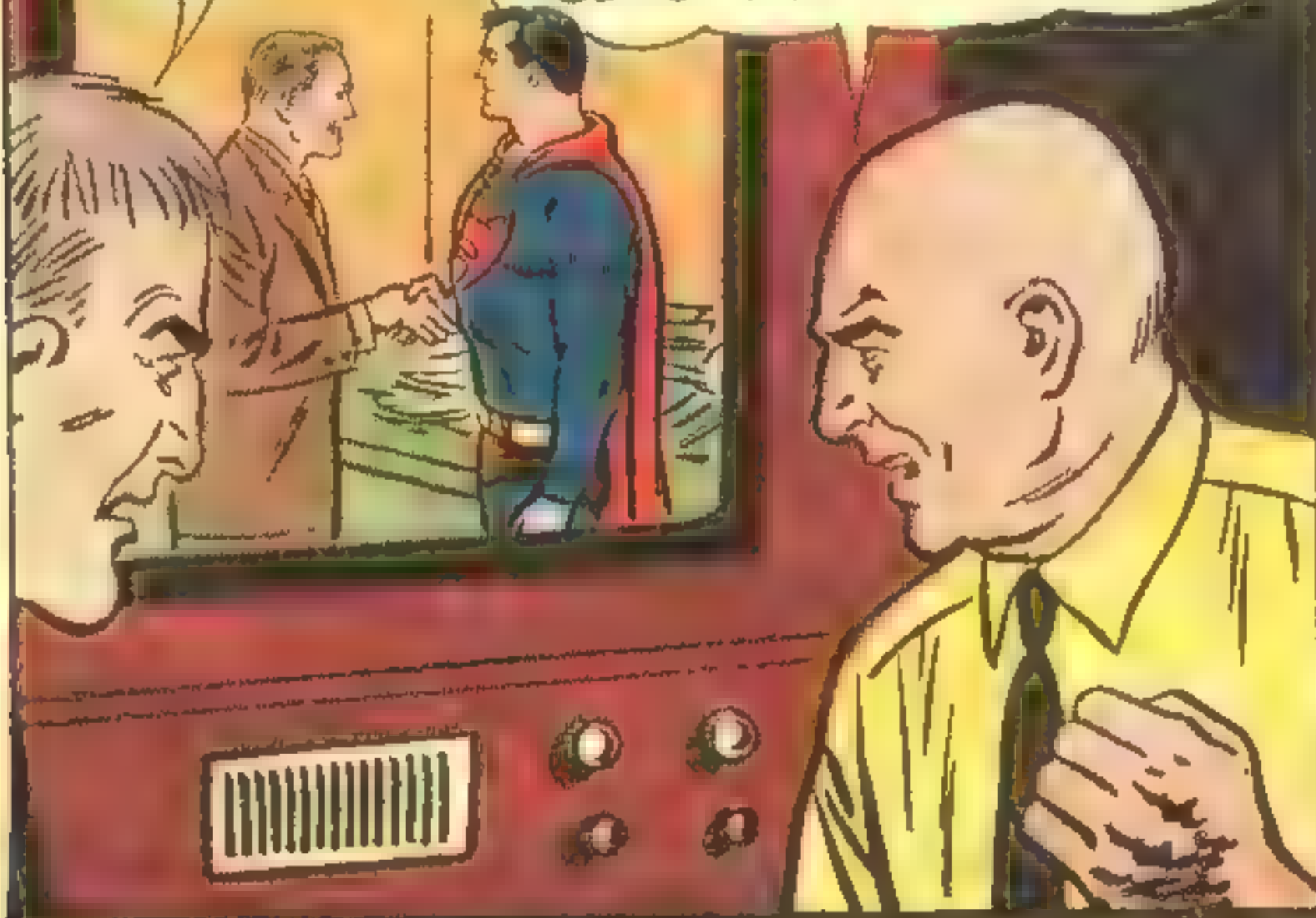
SPEAKING FOR THE CITIZENS OF METROPOLIS, WE WISH YOU LUCK, **SUPERMAN**!



BUT LEX LUTHOR HAS OTHER PLANS...

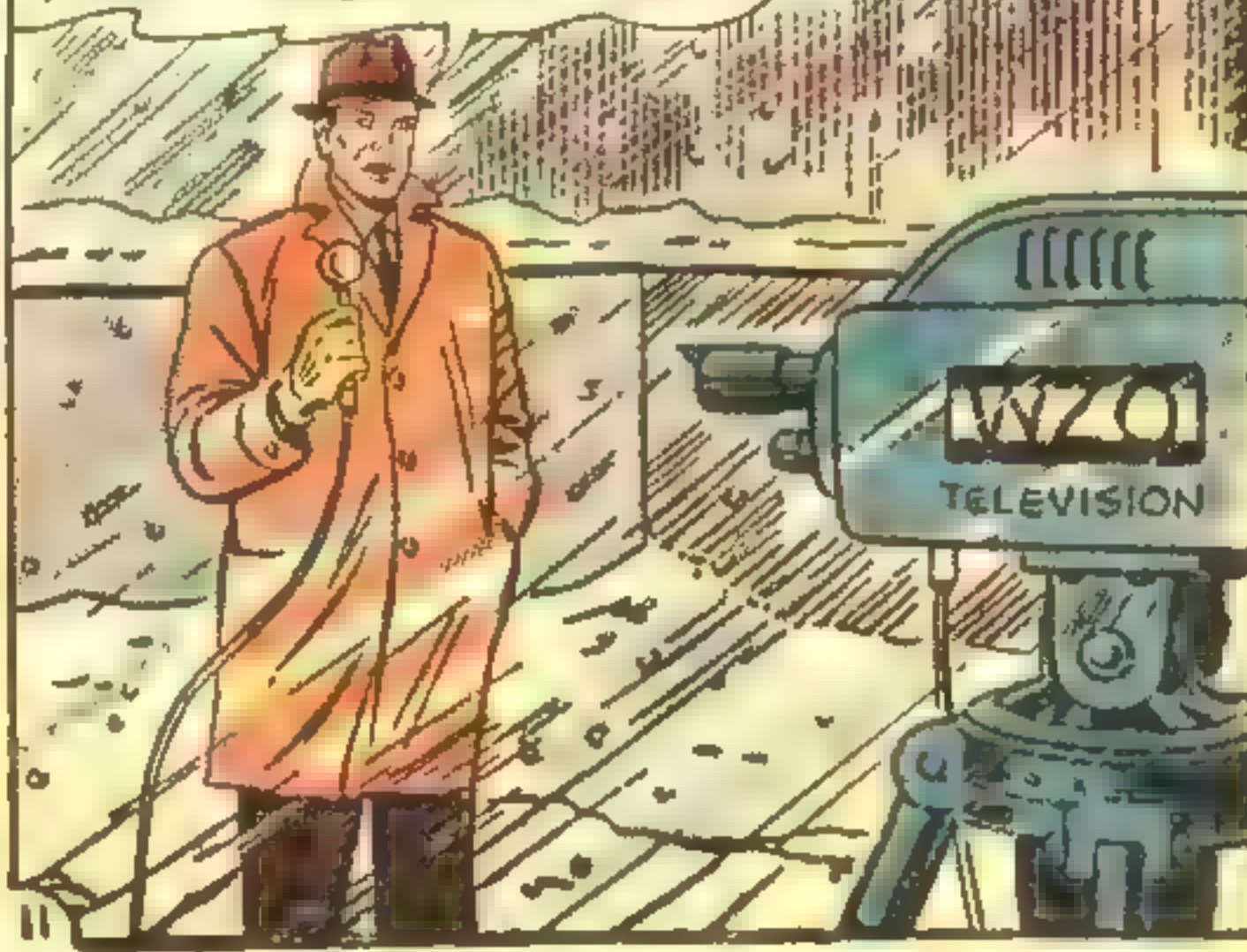
WOW! **SUPERMAN** SOUNDS AWFULLY SURE OF HIMSELF!

RELAX! THAT RAT DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT HE'S ON BORROWED TIME... TOTTERING ON THE BRINK OF A MENTAL COLLAPSE! AND I'M THE GUY WHO'S GOING TO PUSH HIM OVER!



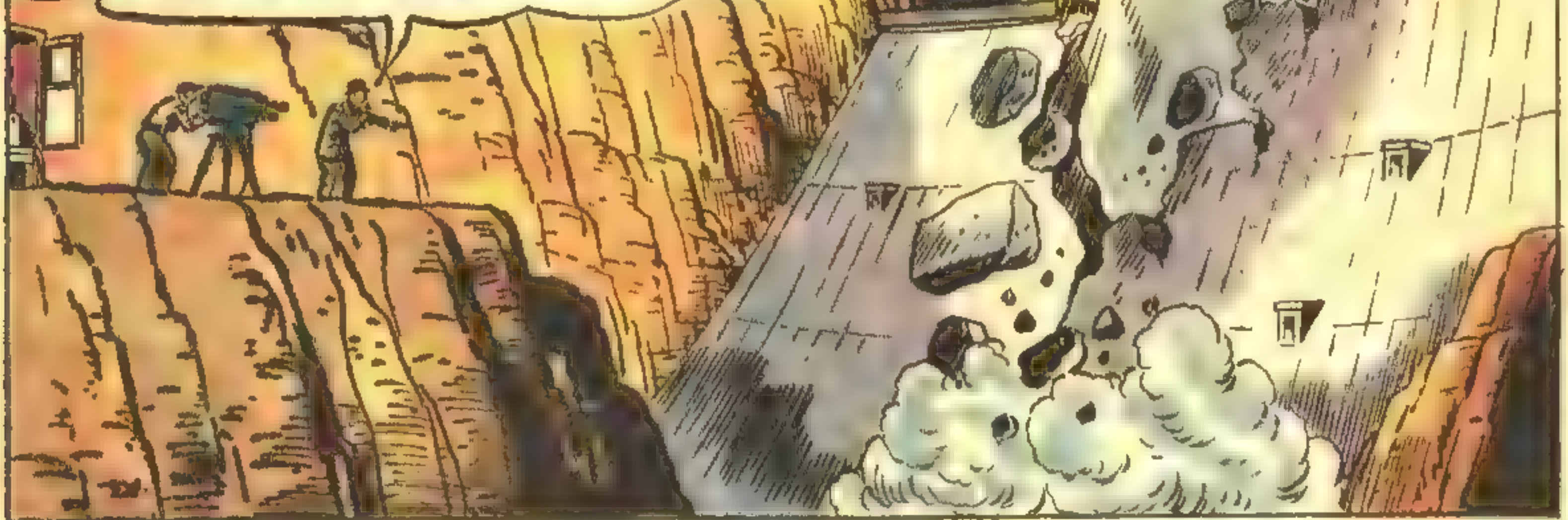
NEXT DAY, ON METROPOLIS T.V....

...THERE'S BEEN A SUDDEN, WEIRD CHANGE IN THE WEATHER! THE TEMPERATURE HAS TAKEN A NOSE-DIVE. A BLIZZARD HAS HIT METROPOLIS!... AND NOW, STAND BY FOR A SPECIAL NEWSCAST FROM THE UPSTATE AREA!



AS THE NATION WATCHES IN ASTONISHMENT...

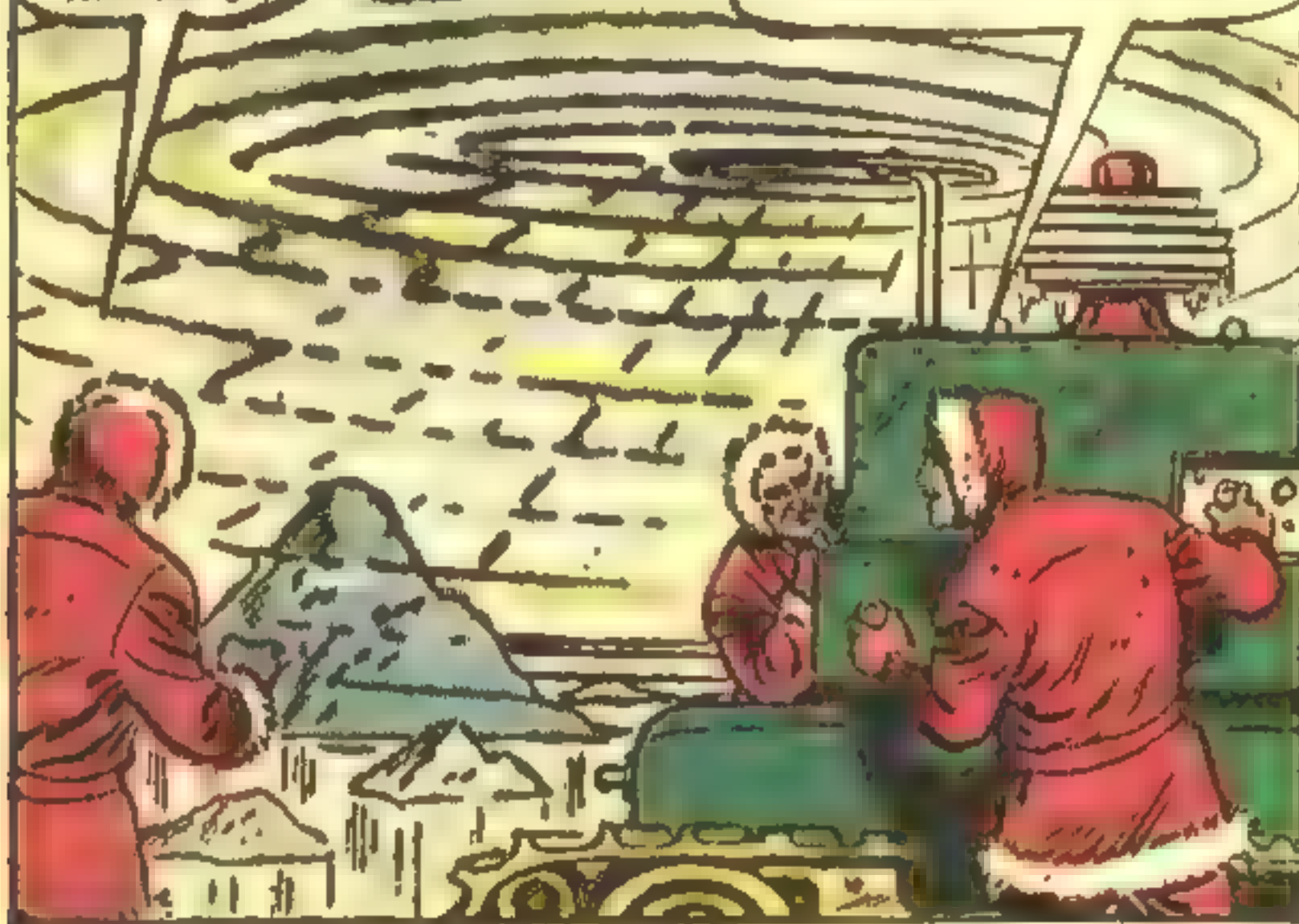
SOME UNKNOWN FORCE HAS SUDDENLY FROZEN OUR LAKES AND RESERVOIRS INTO SOLID ICE... TURNING THEM INTO MASSIVE GLACIERS WHICH NO DAM CAN HOLD! THESE RIVERS OF ICE ARE MOVING TOWARD METROPOLIS! WE'VE SENT OUT A CALL FOR SUPERMAN!



MEANWHILE, NOT FAR AWAY...

YOUR DYNO-FROST MACHINE IS TERRIFIC, LUTHOR! IT'S ALTERING THE CLIMATE FOR HUNDREDS OF SQUARE MILES!

HA, HA! I'VE STARTED A NEW ICE AGE. THOSE ADVANCING GLACIERS WILL PANIC THE CITY AND WE'LL BE ABLE TO LOOT TO OUR HEARTS' CONTENT!



SUDDENLY...

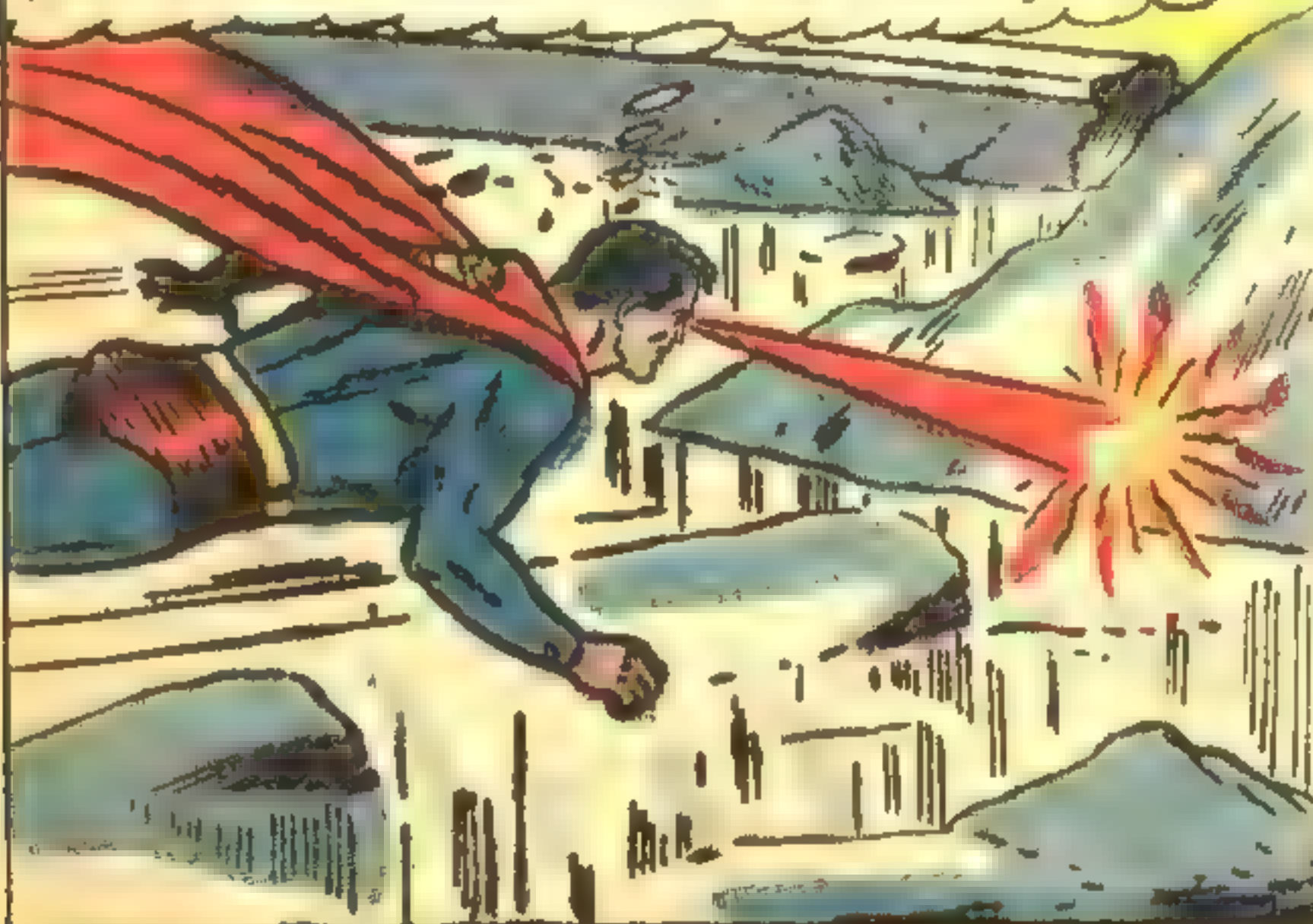
LOOK! IT'S **SUPERMAN**! YOU PROMISED THAT HE WOULDN'T INTERFERE WITH OUR PLANS!

KEEP... HA, HA!... COOL! THIS IS WHERE MY WEEKS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE PAY OFF. I PREDICT HE WON'T LIFT A FINGER TO STOP US!



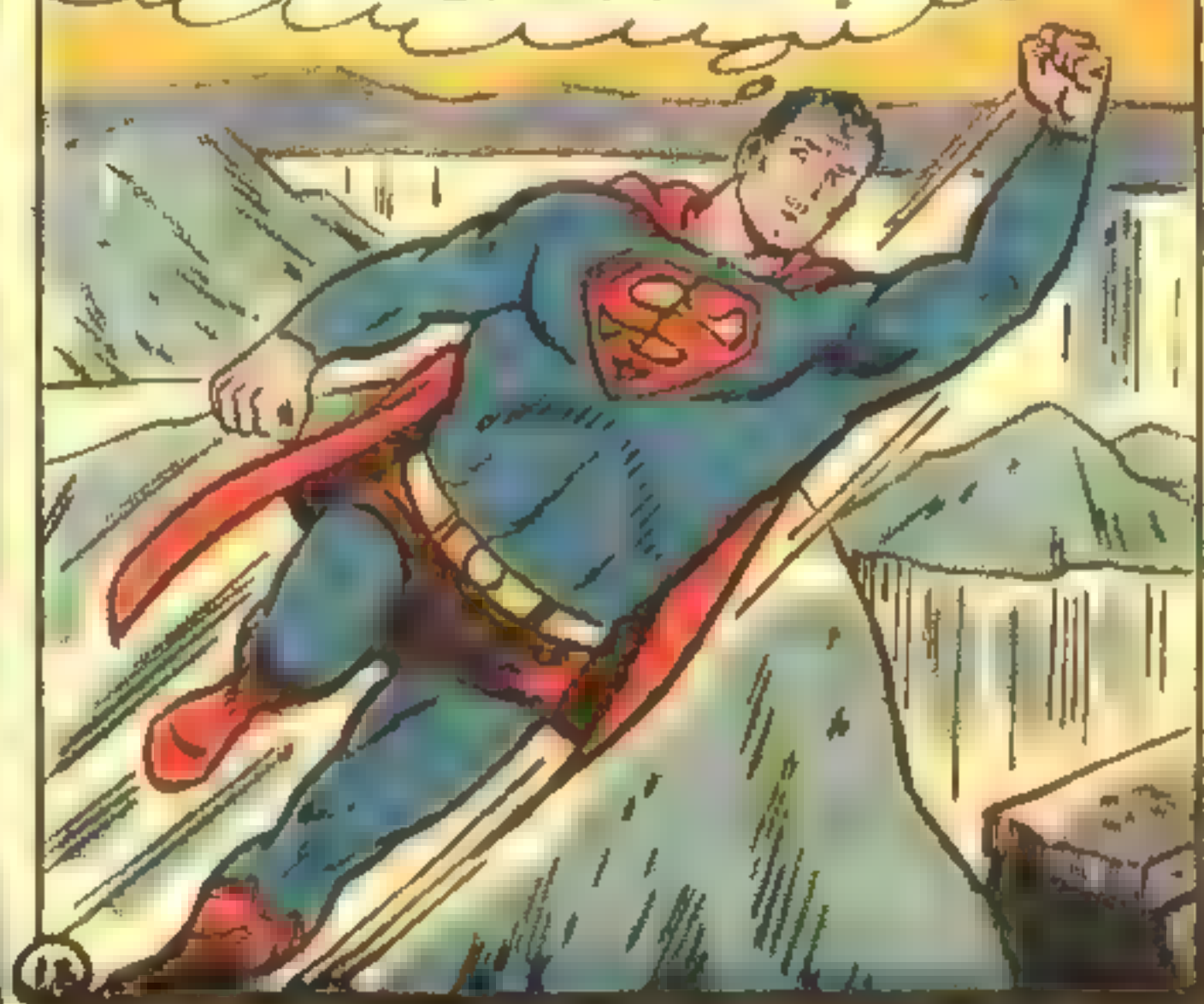
AND SURE ENOUGH, AS SUPERMAN SWOOPS DOWN

IT'S A CATASTROPHE! THE COUNTRYSIDE IS COVERED WITH GLACIERS... ALL MOVING TOWARD METROPOLIS! I'LL MELT THE GLACIERS WITH MY HEAT VISION AND REDEEM MYSELF WITH THE PUBLIC!

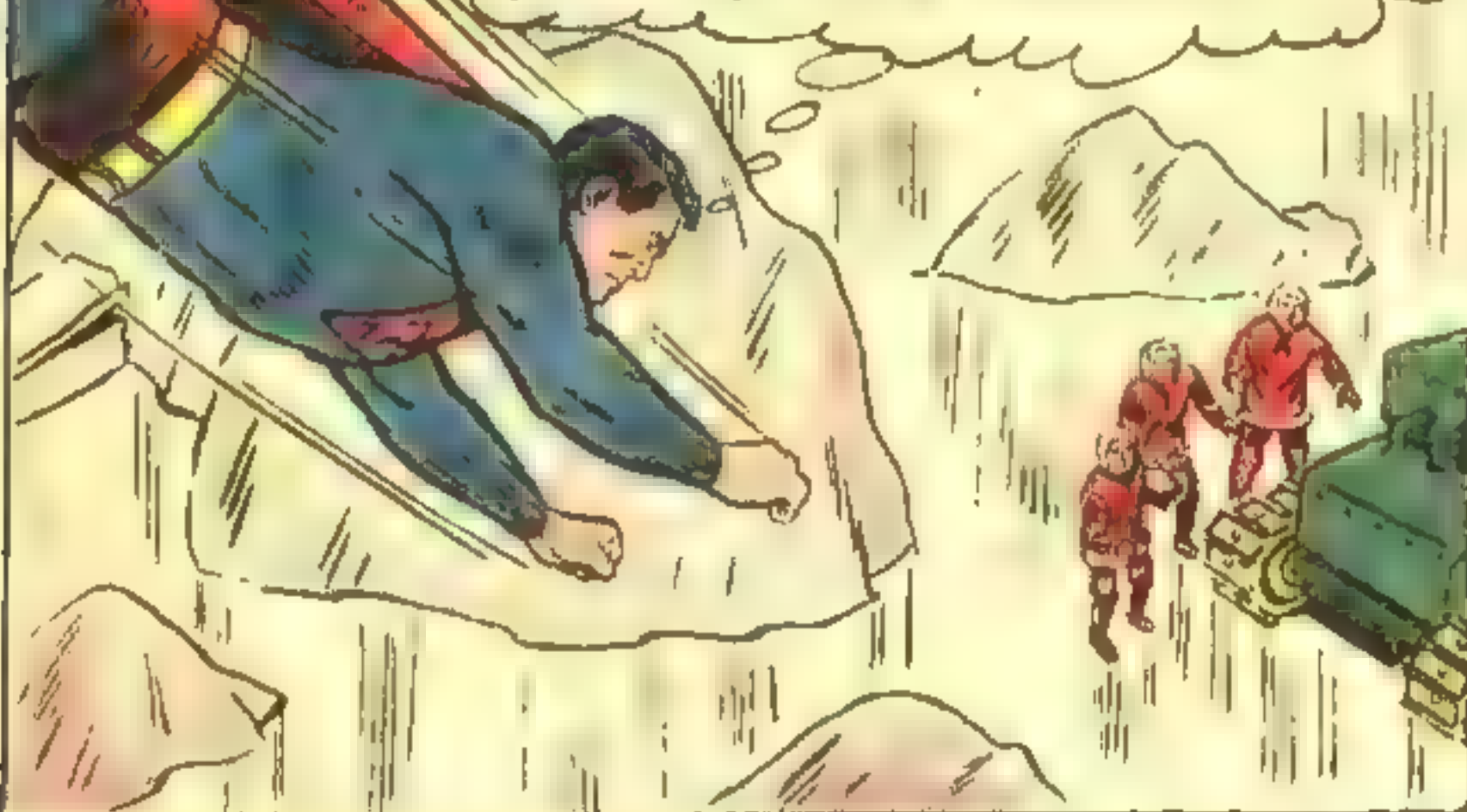


BUT SECONDS LATER...

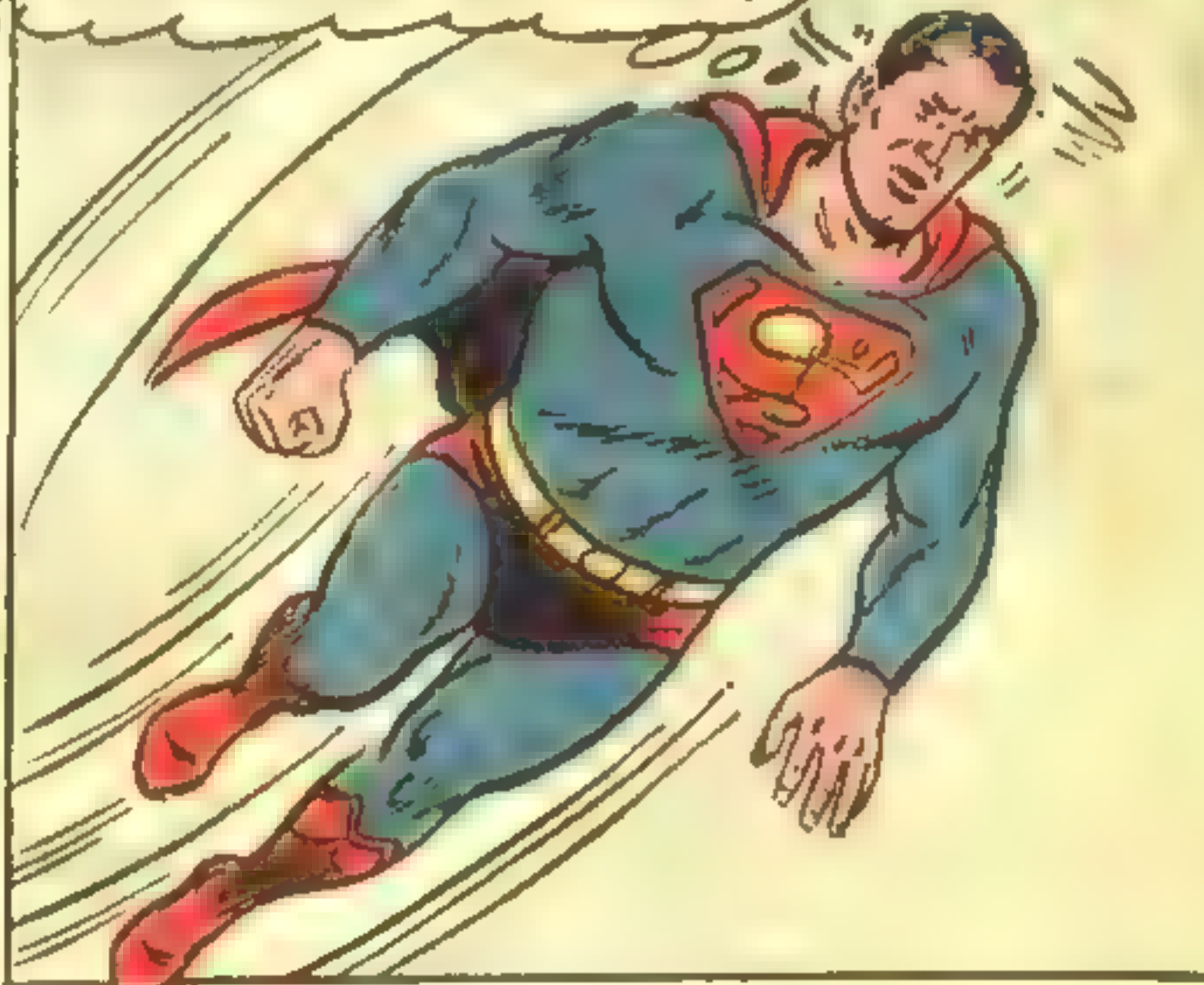
WAIT! IF I MELT THE ICE, THE WATER WILL POUR THROUGH THE BROKEN DAMS AND FLOOD METROPOLIS. MAYBE I SHOULD HURL THE GLACIERS INTO OUTER SPACE!



HOLD ON! THERE'S **LUTHOR** WITH A STRANGE DEVICE! DID **HE** CAUSE THOSE GLACIERS TO FORM? OR IS HE HERE TO HELP ME? HE SAVED MY LIFE... BUT HE LIED ABOUT THAT TRAIN! HE'S BEEN MY FRIEND AND FOE! IF I CARRY AWAY THE GLACIERS, MAYBE IT WILL TRIGGER OFF ONE OF HIS CLEVER BOOBY TRAPS--AND BACKFIRE ON **METROPOLIS** SOMEHOW!

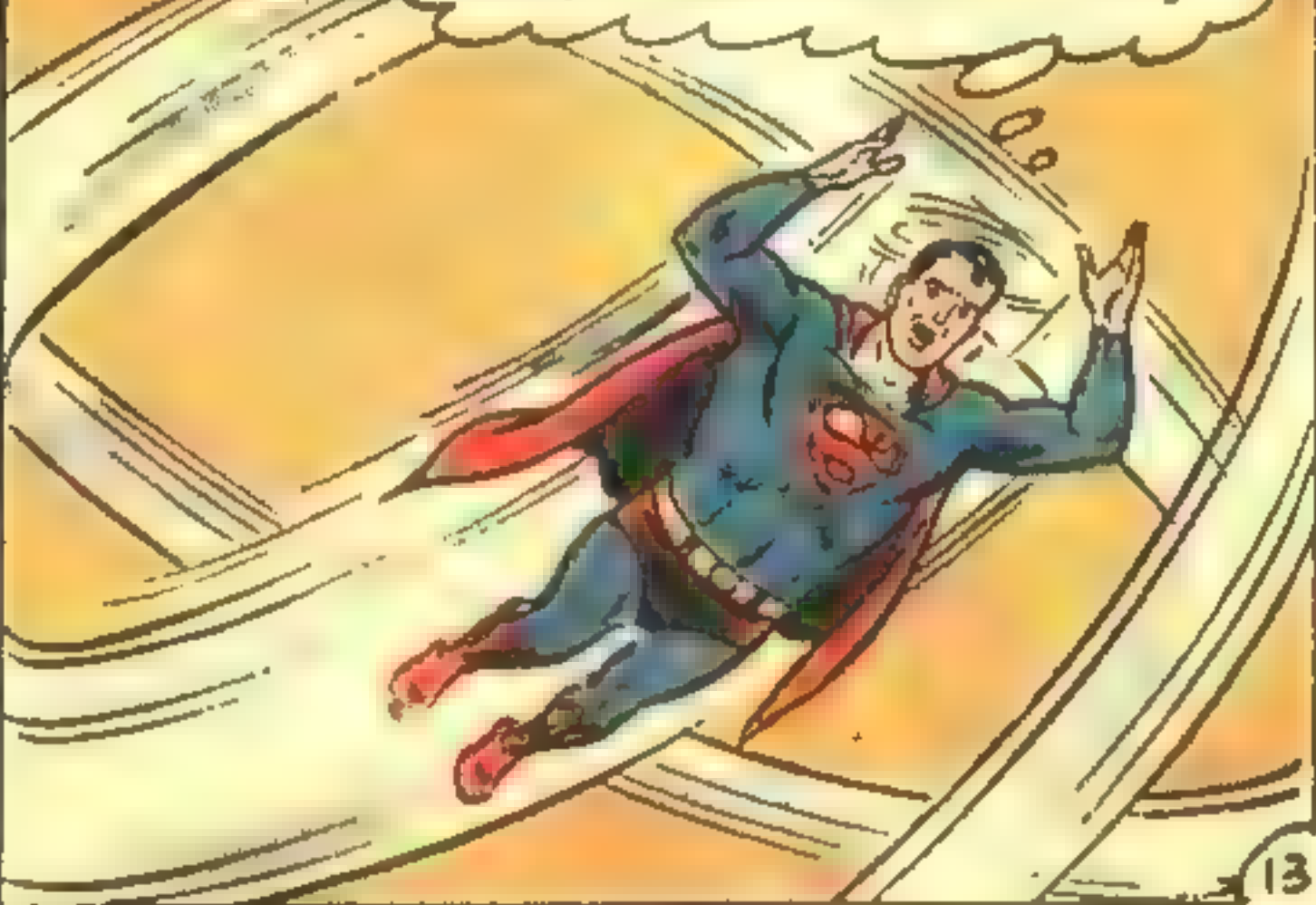


YE GODS! I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING! SUPPOSE THIS WHOLE GLACIER BIT IS AN ILLUSION? IT'S HAPPENED TO ME BEFORE! AND IF I ACT AS THOUGH THIS WERE A REAL MENACE, EVERYONE WILL THINK I'VE FLIPPED FOR GOOD!

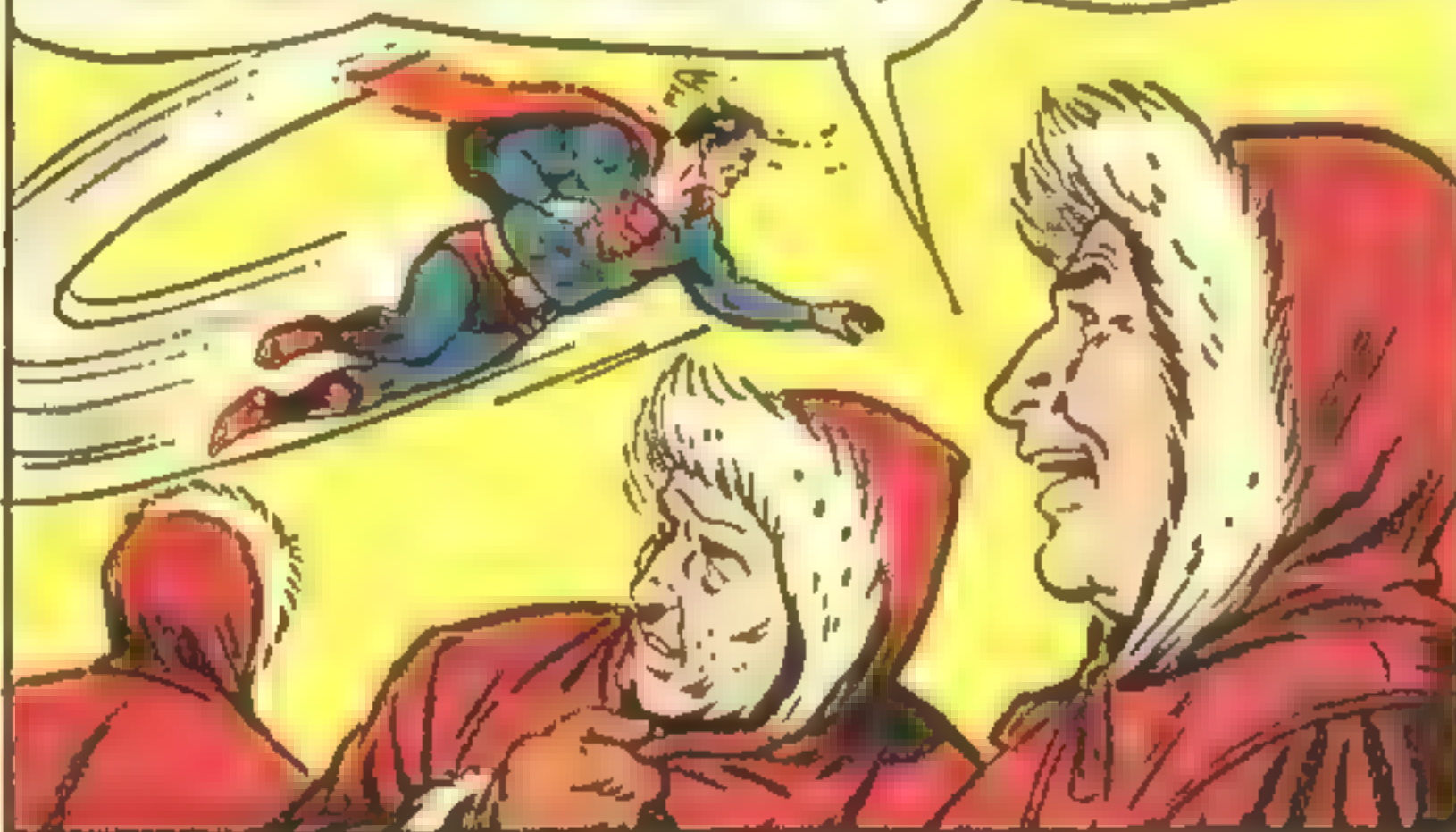


THEN, SUDDENLY, **SUPERMAN'S** NERVES SEEM TO GIVE WAY...

WHAT DO I DO NOW? NO MATTER **WHAT** COURSE OF ACTION I TAKE, I'LL PROBABLY BE WRONG! EVERYONE WILL LAUGH AT ME. WHAT SHALL I DO?--WHAT SHALL I DO?



HA, HA! JUST LIKE THE RABBIT IN MY EXPERIMENT! **SUPERMAN'S** BEEN CONFUSED AND BAFFLED SO OFTEN THAT HE'S FINALLY CRACKED UP! NOW WE CAN COMMIT ANY CRIME WE WANT TO... AND HE'S IN NO CONDITION TO STOP US!



IT LOOKS LIKE **LUTHOR'S** WON EVERY BATTLE... BUT HAS HE ALSO WON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WAR AGAINST **SUPERMAN**? DON'T MISS THE COLOSSAL CONCLUSION IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **ACTION COMICS**!... ENTITLED "**LUTHOR'S FIRST VICTORY!**"

He's a **GREATER** DETECTIVE THAN **BATMAN!**

HE'S **GOTHAM CITY'S** NEW CHAMPION OF JUSTICE!

HE'S **SUPERMAN'S** NEW PARTNER!

He's **NIGHTMAN!**

SEE HIM REPLACE **BATMAN** IN THIS **SUPER-SHOCKER** OF THE YEAR--

"EXIT BATMAN--ENTER NIGHTMAN!"

NOW ON SALE!

EXTRA! THE EDITOR'S ROUND-TABLE "HITCHCOCK" CHOICE!





THE MANY FACES OF SUPERMAN

Have you ever thought you might be able to draw Superman? Here's your chance to try your hand at it. We had artist Curtis Swan draw this page of heads, depicting the Man of Steel with every conceivable expression, from all different angles. Using this as a guide, see how well you can draw our hero. And while you're at it, try and figure out what emotion each picture represents. And is Superman using any of his super-powers? Send your answers on a postal card to METROPOLIS MAILBAG, National Periodical Pub., 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

SUPERGIRL

AN
IMAGINARY
STORY

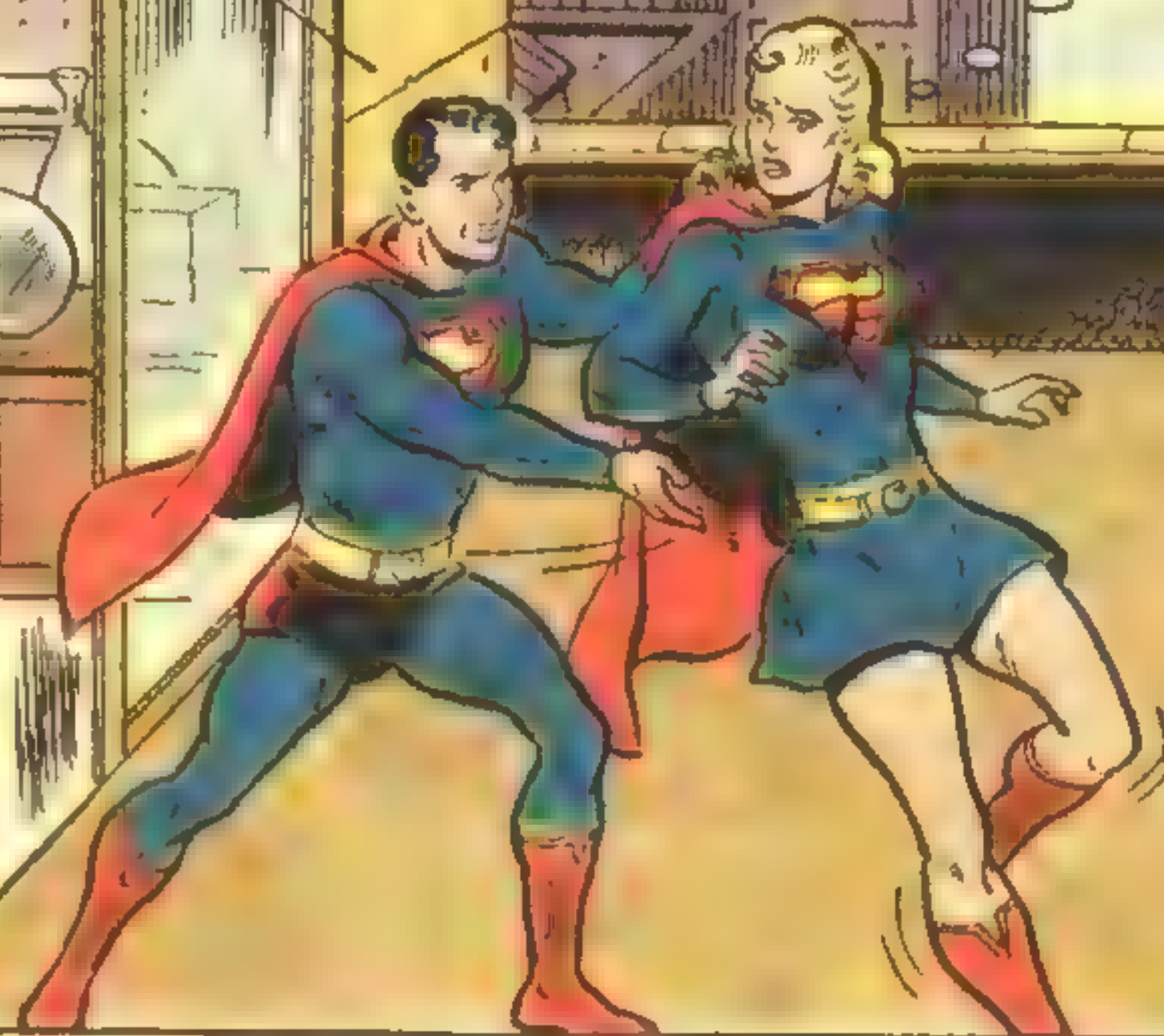
GET OUT AND STAY OUT! I'M SICK OF YOU DICTATING TO ME. WHEN I RELEASE THE VILLAINS FROM THE PHANTOM ZONE, WE'LL DESTROY YOU AND TAKE OVER EARTH!

SUPERBOYS' LABORATORY
KEEP OUT

EVER SINCE SUPERBOY LANDED ON EARTH, FROM ARGO CITY, HE'S BEEN WILLFUL AND STUBBORN! BUT NOW MY OWN COUSIN HAS BECOME MY ENEMY AND A TRAITOR... I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

WHEN SUPERGIRL FIRST CAME TO EARTH, SHE WAS SECRETLY TRAINED IN THE USE OF HER POWERS BY SUPERMAN, BEFORE HER EXISTENCE WAS REVEALED TO THE WORLD. AS WE ALL KNOW, THE MAID OF STEEL CAME THROUGH WITH FLYING COLORS, BUT IN THIS MIGHT-HAVE-BEEN TALE, THE ROLES OF THE TWO ARE REVERSED, AND IT'S A GROWN SUPERWOMAN WHO TRAINS A TEEN-AGE SUPERBOY! AND IF YOU THINK THAT'S THE ONLY TWIST, YOU HAVE ANOTHER THINK COMING! COME ON... WE'VE RESERVED YOU A RINGSIDE SEAT FOR...

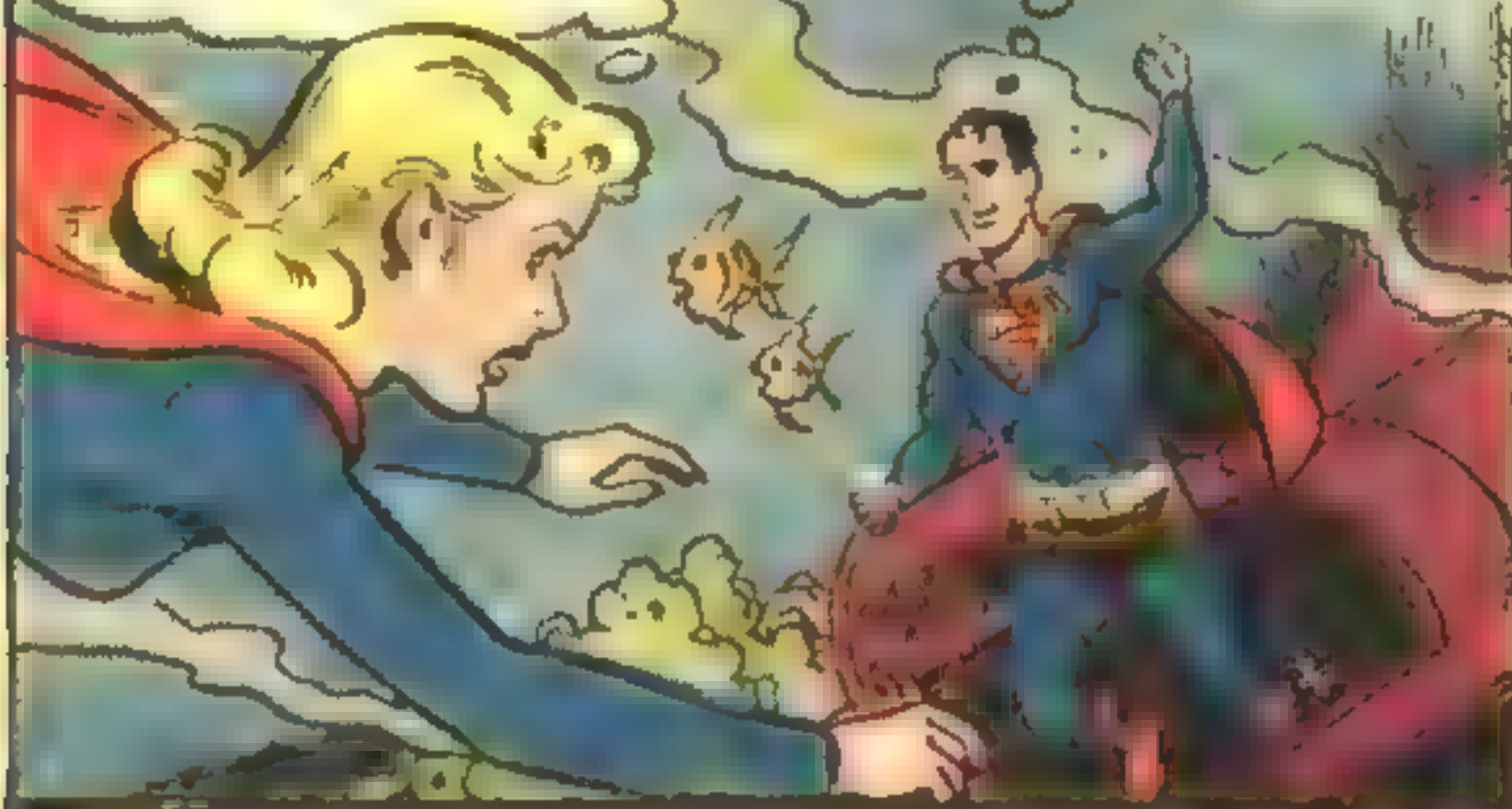
"THE DUEL BETWEEN SUPERWOMAN AND SUPERBOY!"



IN THIS IMAGINARY TALE, THE MAID OF STEEL IS A GROWN SUPERWOMAN AND EARTH'S GREATEST HEROINE WHEN SUPERBOY ARRIVES ON THIS WORLD!

≧GASP!≦ THAT ROCKET PLUNGED OUT OF SPACE AND INTO THE SEA. WHO IS THAT YOUTH... WHY WASN'T HE HURT IN THE PLUNGE? WHY IS HE WEARING A SUPER-COSTUME?

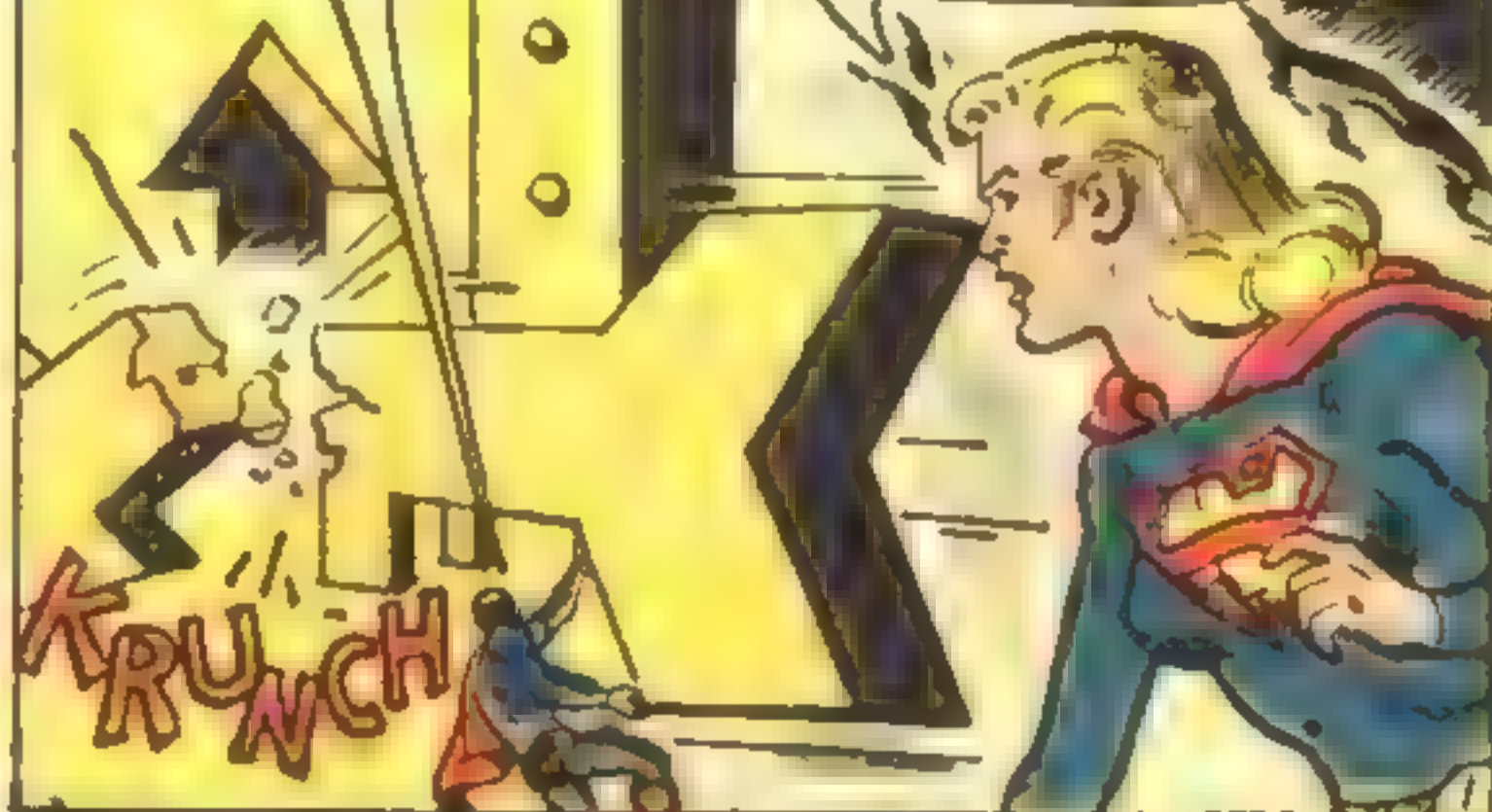
SHE DOESN'T KNOW I'M HER COUSIN, KAL-EL, FROM ARGO CITY!



LATER, SUPERWOMAN TRIES TO TRAIN KAL-EL AS HER SECRET WEAPON, BUT...

STAND BACK, SUPERWOMAN. I'LL OPEN THE DOOR TO YOUR ARCTIC FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE!

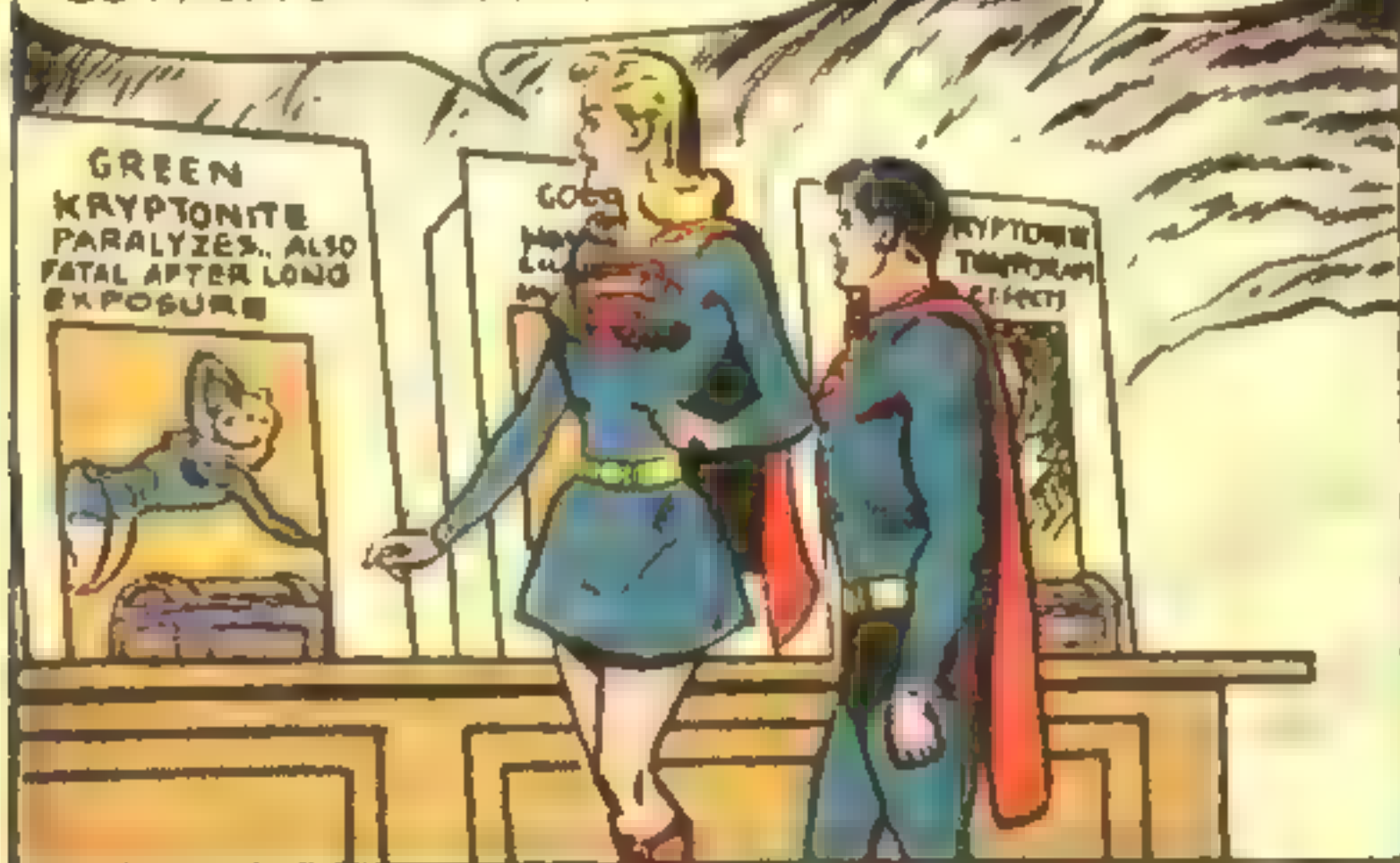
SUPERBOY! I WARNED YOU NOT TO TRY USING THAT KEY! YOU STILL DON'T KNOW HOW TO CONTROL YOUR SUPER-POWERS! YOU'RE TOO CLUMSY IN FLIGHT!



SOON, AS SUPERBOY LEARNS THE SECRETS OF SUPERWOMAN'S HEADQUARTERS ...

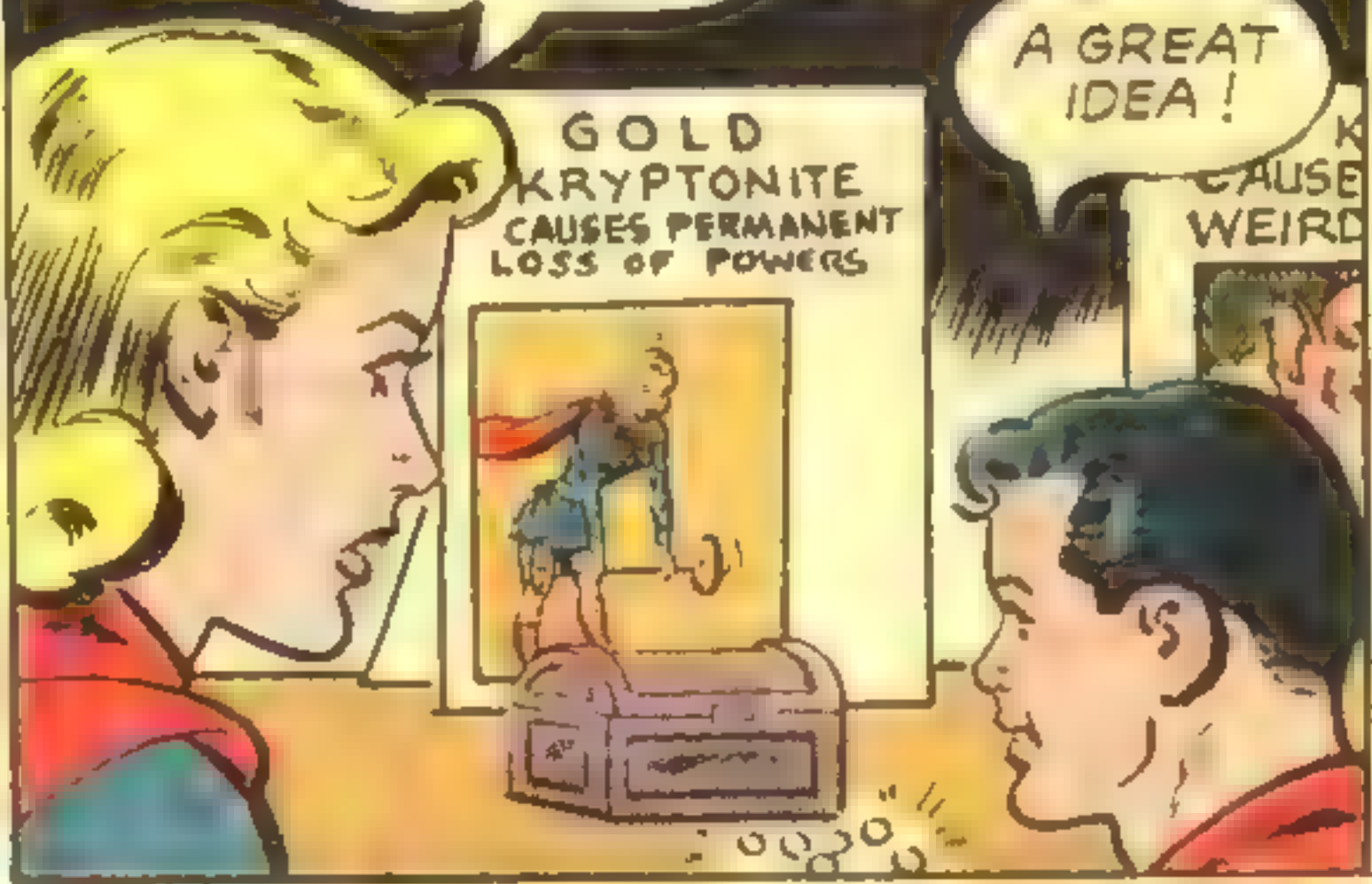
THESE BOXES CONTAIN VARIOUS FORMS OF KRYPTONITE, WHICH AFFECT ONLY KRYPTONIANS! THE LEAD CONTAINERS KEEP US FROM BEING HARMED.

I SEE!



THIS BOX CONTAINS GOLD KRYPTONITE ... AND THESE ARE GOLD K CAPSULES, COATED WITH LEAD ... WHICH I WOULD USE IN AN EMERGENCY. THEY WOULD ERASE THE POWERS OF ANY SUPER-VILLAIN WHO ESCAPED FROM THE PHANTOM ZONE!

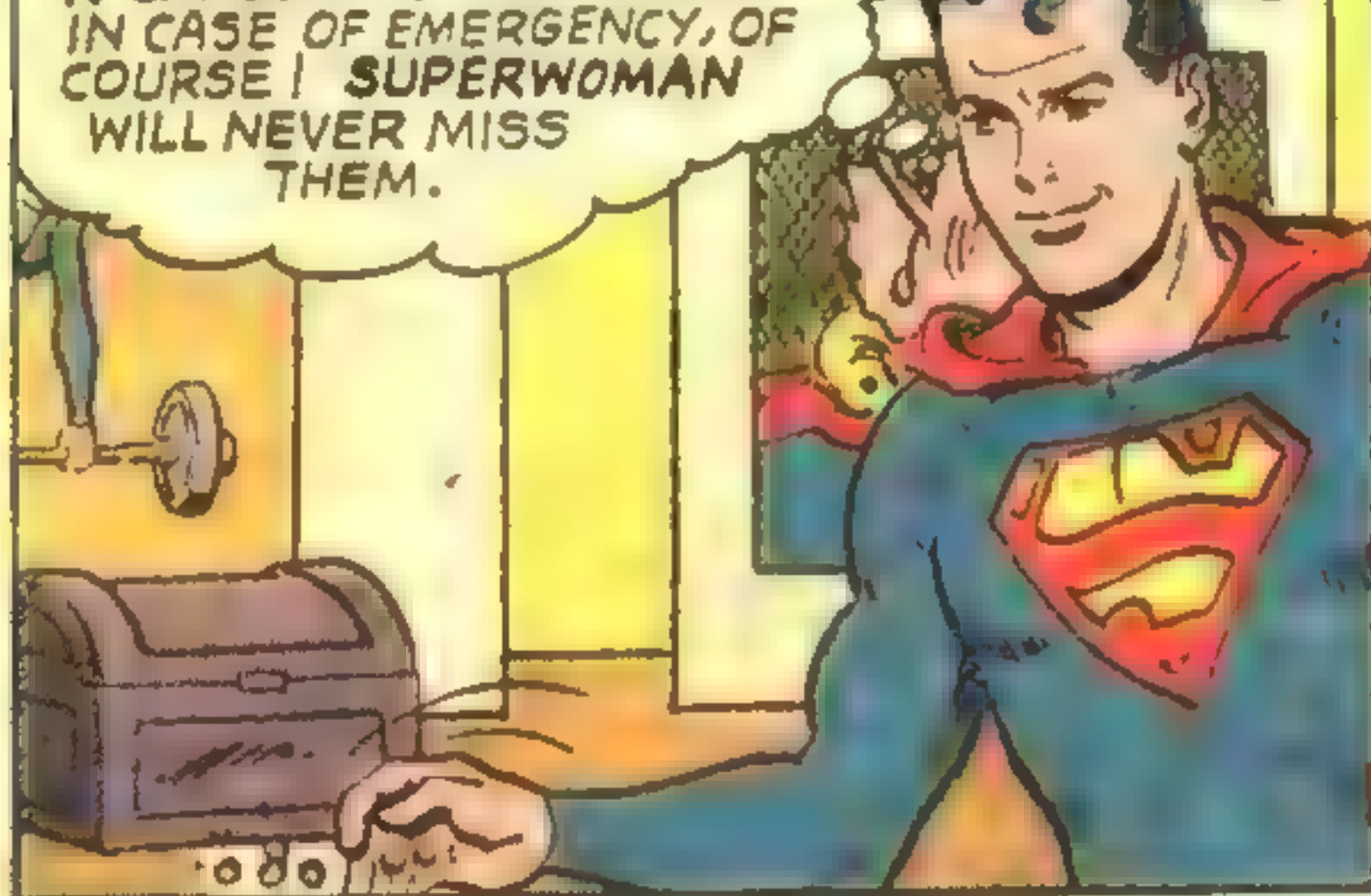
A GREAT IDEA!



BUT AS SUPERWOMAN TURNS AWAY ...

HMM... I OUGHT TO HAVE A COUPLE OF THOSE GOLD K CAPSULES, TOO... JUST IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, OF COURSE! SUPERWOMAN WILL NEVER MISS THEM.

RED KRYPTONITE CAUSES TEMPORARY WEIRD EFFECTS

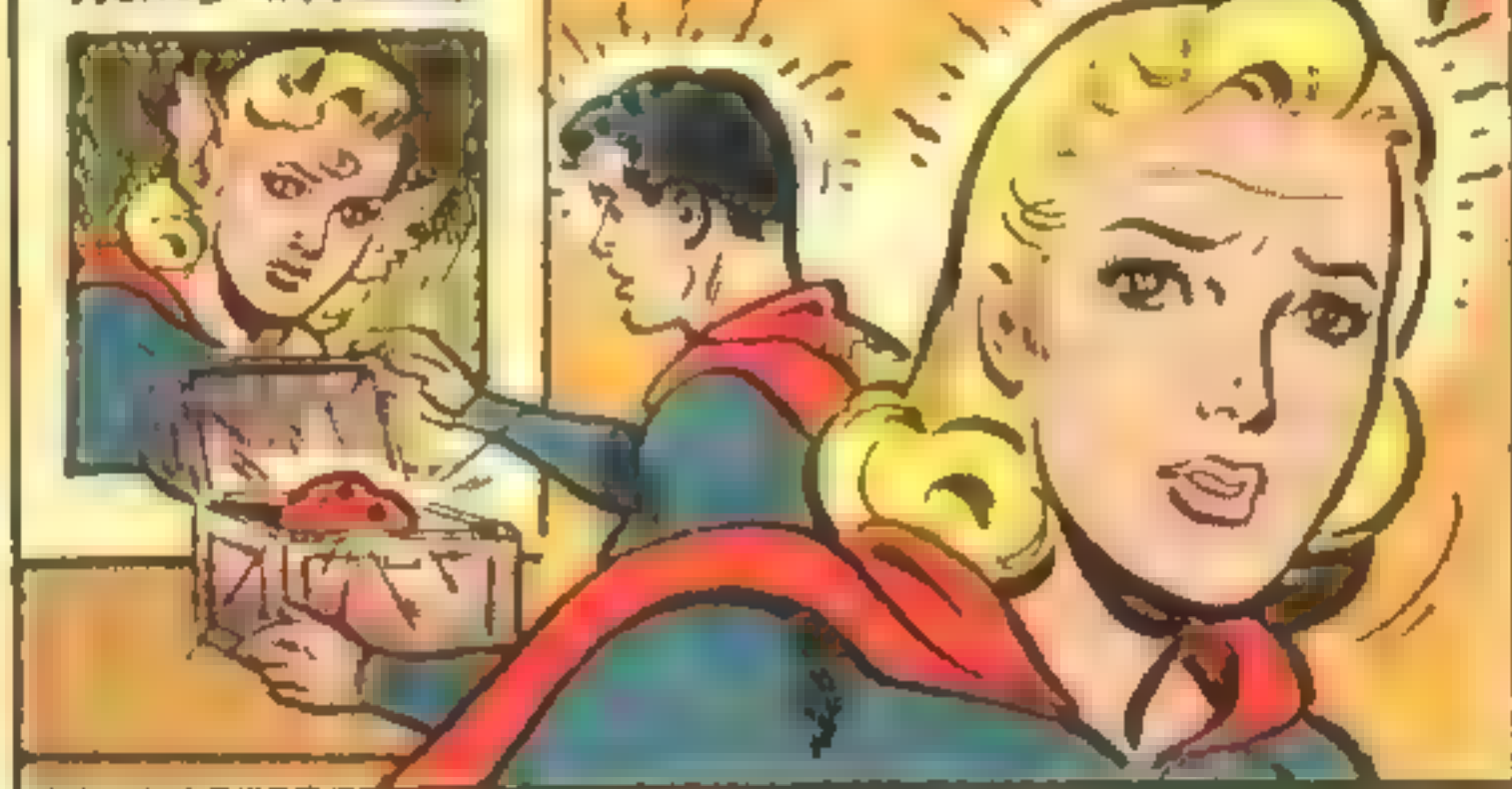


SECONDS LATER, THE SUPER-LAD ACTS RECKLESSLY ONCE AGAIN...

SO RED KRYPTONITE HAS TEMPORARY WEIRD EFFECTS! SOUNDS INTERESTING! I WONDER WHAT IT'LL DO TO ME?... OH-OH! I FEEL A STRANGE TINGLING!

SO DO I! IT'S A SIGN THAT THE RED K IS WORKING ON US! ULP! THIS VARIETY NEVER AFFECTED ME BEFORE. WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

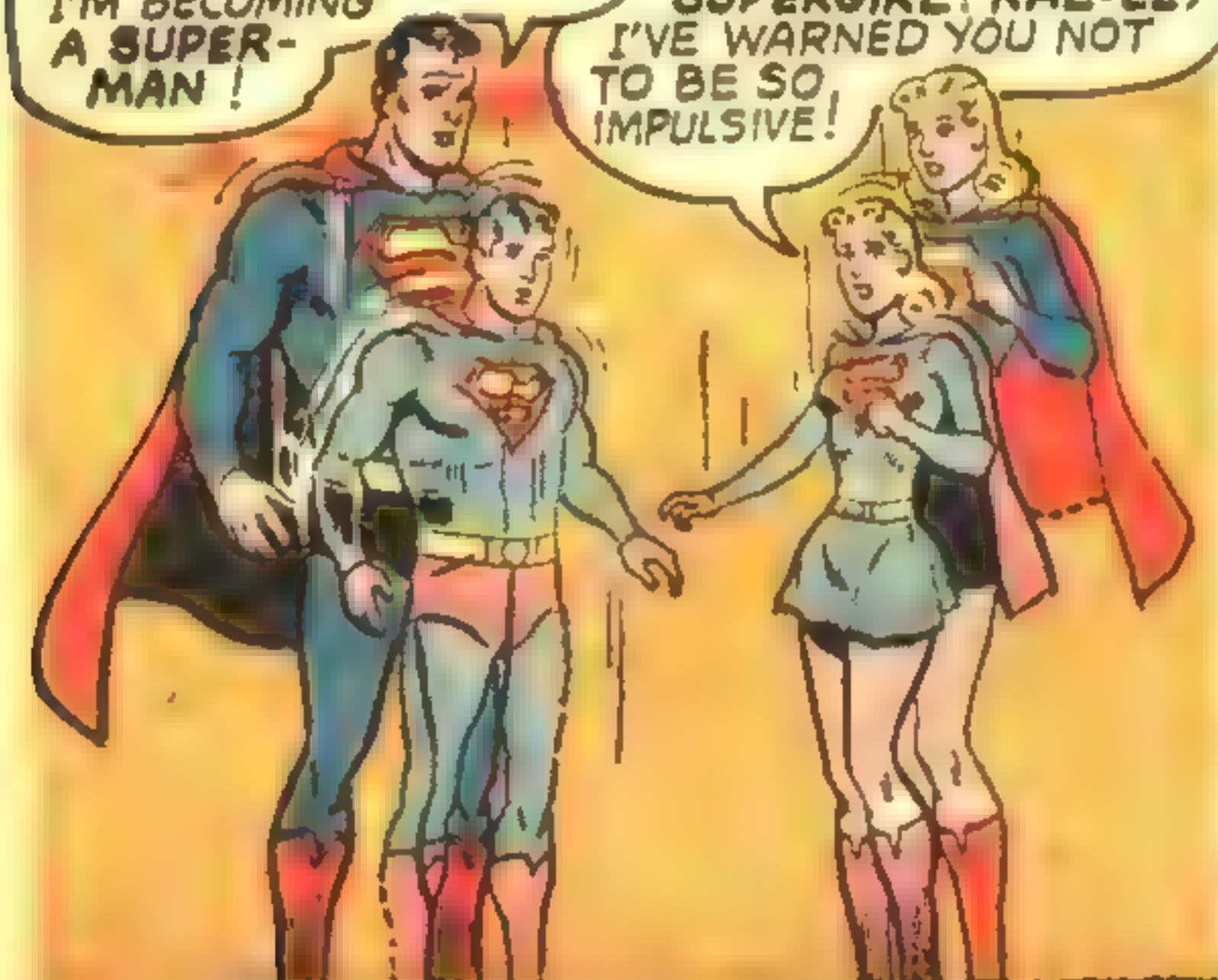
RED KRYPTONITE CAUSES TEMPORARY WEIRD EFFECTS



IN THE NEXT ASTONISHING MOMENT...

GASP! I'M GROWING ... BIGGER, STRONGER! I'M BECOMING A SUPER-MAN!

AND I'M SHRINKING INTO A TEEN-AGE SUPERGIRL! KAL-EL, I'VE WARNED YOU NOT TO BE SO IMPULSIVE!



BUT SHORTLY, THE RED K EFFECT ENDS, JUST IN TIME ...

CALLING SUPERWOMAN! THERE IS AN EMERGENCY AT THE NUCLEAR PLANT IN ATOM CITY!

I MUST ANSWER THAT ALERT. WAIT HERE... BUT DON'T TOUCH ANY OF THE EQUIPMENT.

I'LL DO JUST AS I PLEASE! SHE'LL NEVER KNOW!



AND SO, IN THIS IMAGINARY STORY, THE SUPER-BEINGS TEMPORARILY ASSUME THEIR REAL-LIFE ROLES OF SUPERMAN AND SUPERGIRL.

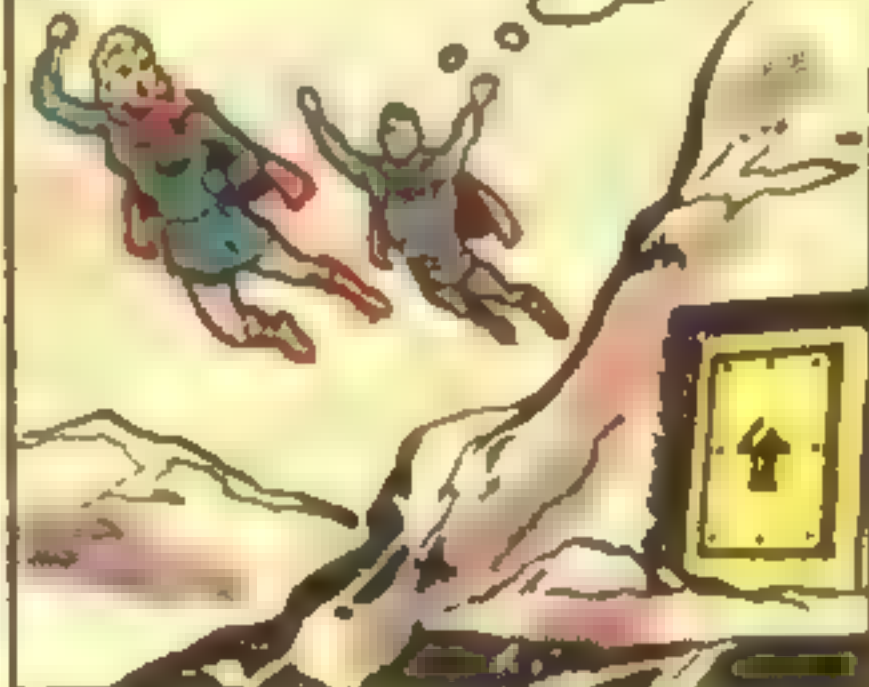
WHEN SUPERWOMAN RETURNS, SHE FINDS THE FORTRESS A SHAMBLES...

SUPERBOY, YOU RELEASED THESE MONSTROUS CREATURES FROM A PARALLEL DIMENSION. LUCKILY, I CAN REVERSE THIS CONTROL KNOB AND DRAW THEM BACK INTO THEIR OWN WORLD, WHERE THEY'LL BE HARMLESS.



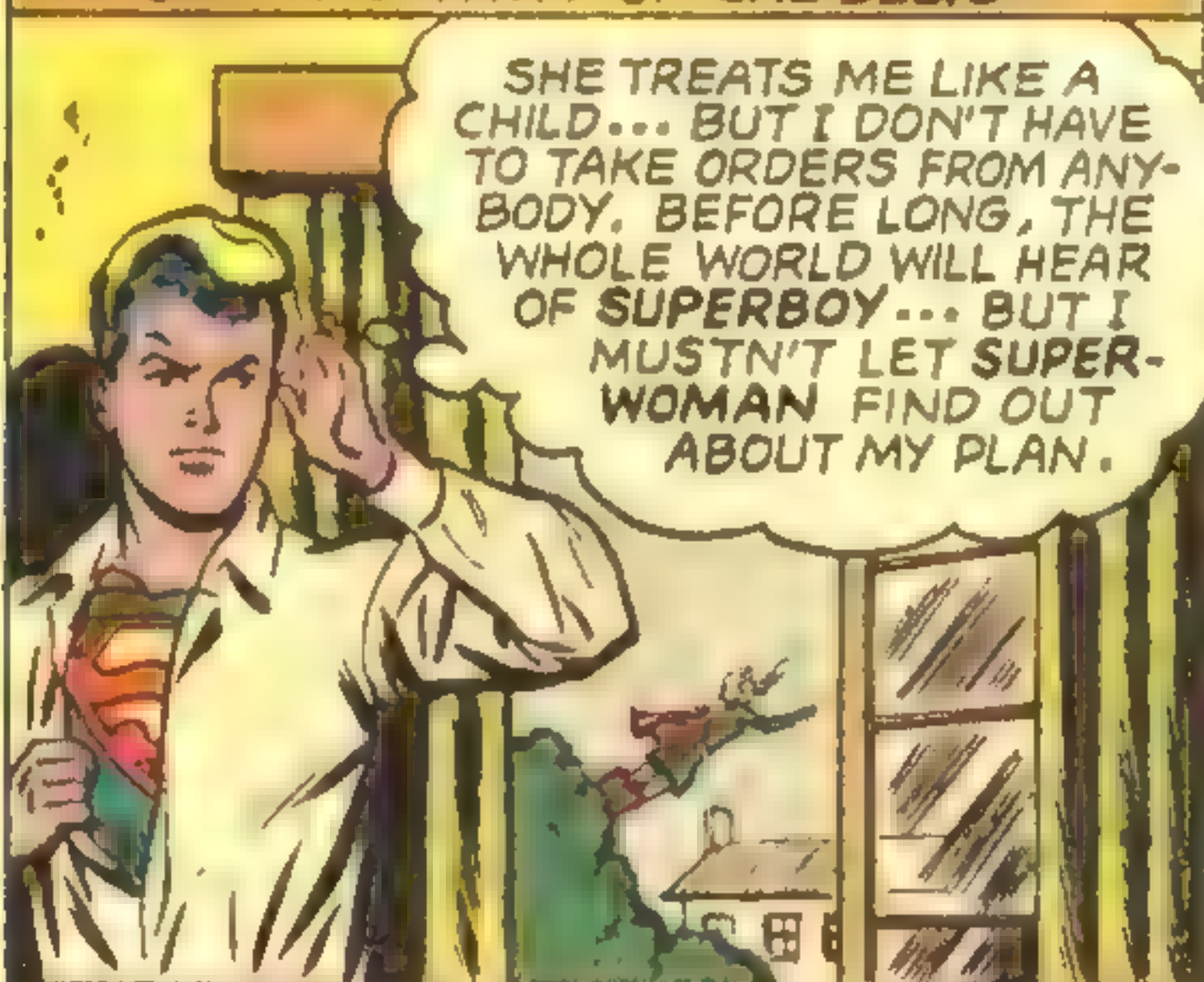
SUPERBOY, I'M FED UP WITH YOUR CHILDISH MISBEHAVIOR. IT'LL TAKE YEARS BEFORE YOU'RE READY TO BE MY SECRET WEAPON.

BAH! SHE'S JEALOUS! SHE WANTS TO BE THE ONLY SUPER-BEING ON EARTH!



PRESENTLY, AS SUPERBOY RETURNS TO MIDVALE ORPHANAGE, WHERE HE LIVES IN HIS SECRET IDENTITY OF CAL ELLIS *...

SHE TREATS ME LIKE A CHILD... BUT I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE ORDERS FROM ANYBODY. BEFORE LONG, THE WHOLE WORLD WILL HEAR OF SUPERBOY... BUT I MUSTN'T LET SUPERWOMAN FIND OUT ABOUT MY PLAN.



* FROM HIS KRYPTONIAN NAME, KAL-EL. — ED.

ONE NIGHT, AS SUPERWOMAN INVESTIGATES AN EXPLOSION UNDER AN ABANDONED JUNKYARD...

...SUPERBOY... TRAPPED IN AN UNDERGROUND LABORATORY... WITH GOLD KRYPTONITE! BEFORE I TRY TO RESCUE HIM, I'D BETTER SHIELD THE GOLD K! I'LL USE MY HEAT VISION TO MAKE THE WALL RED-HOT! THAT WILL MELT THE PIECE OF LEAD ABOVE THE GOLD K!*

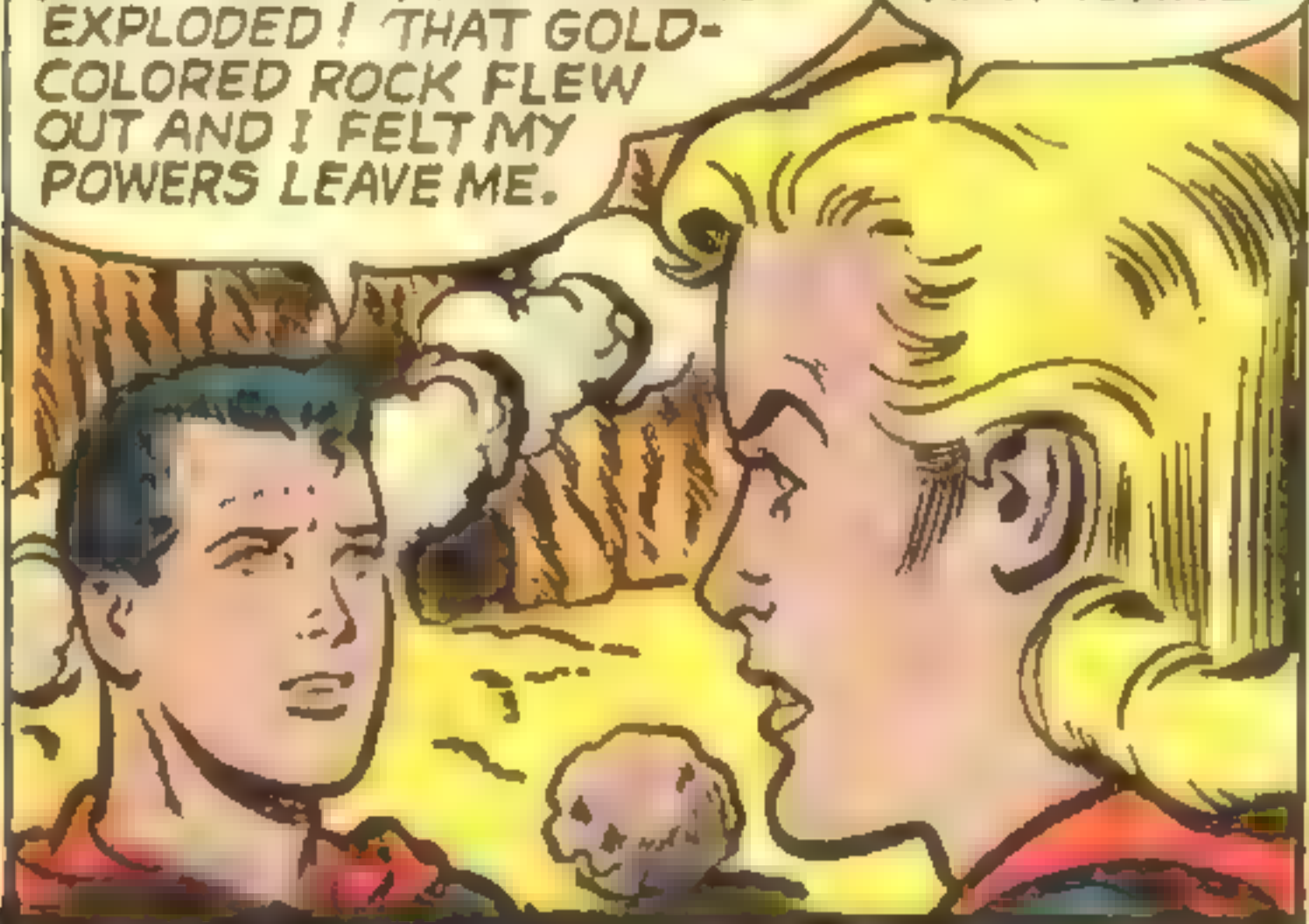


* SUPERWOMAN MUST USE THIS INDIRECT METHOD TO MELT LEAD, BECAUSE HER HEAT RAYS CANNOT PENETRATE THAT METAL. — ED.

AFTER SHE RESCUES SUPERBOY, HE RECOUNTS A STRANGE TALE...

SUPERWOMAN... I WAS TRYING TO FIND A KRYPTONITE ANTIDOTE. WHEN I ATTEMPTED TO CREATE ARTIFICIAL KRYPTONITE, THE FURNACE EXPLODED! THAT GOLD-COLORED ROCK FLEW OUT AND I FELT MY POWERS LEAVE ME.

NATURALLY! YOU ACCIDENTALLY CREATED GOLD KRYPTONITE!



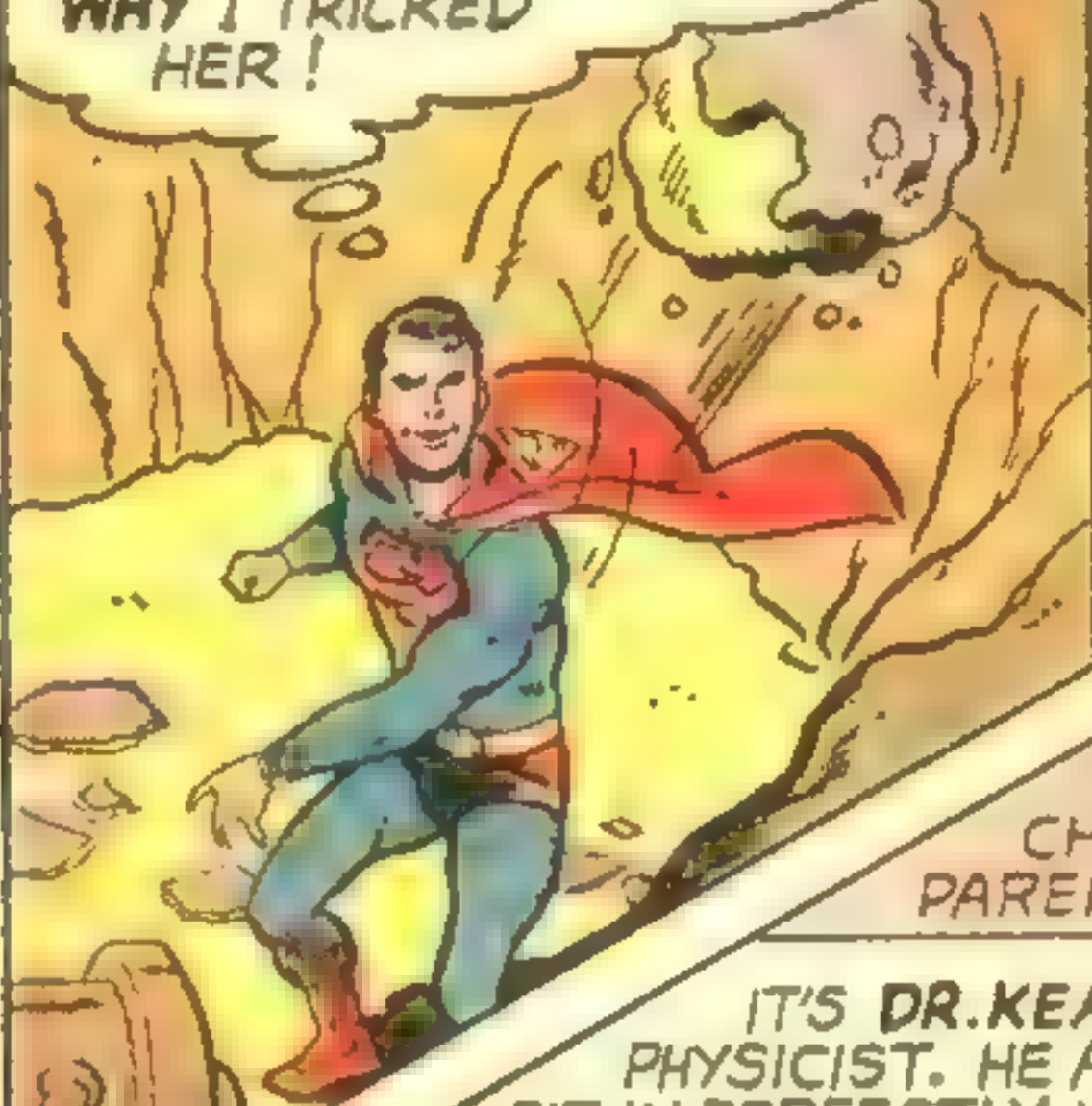
THAT GOLD K DESTROYED YOUR SUPER-POWERS FOREVER! GO BACK TO THE ORPHANAGE. YOU'LL NEVER BE MORE THAN AN ORDINARY MORTAL NOW.



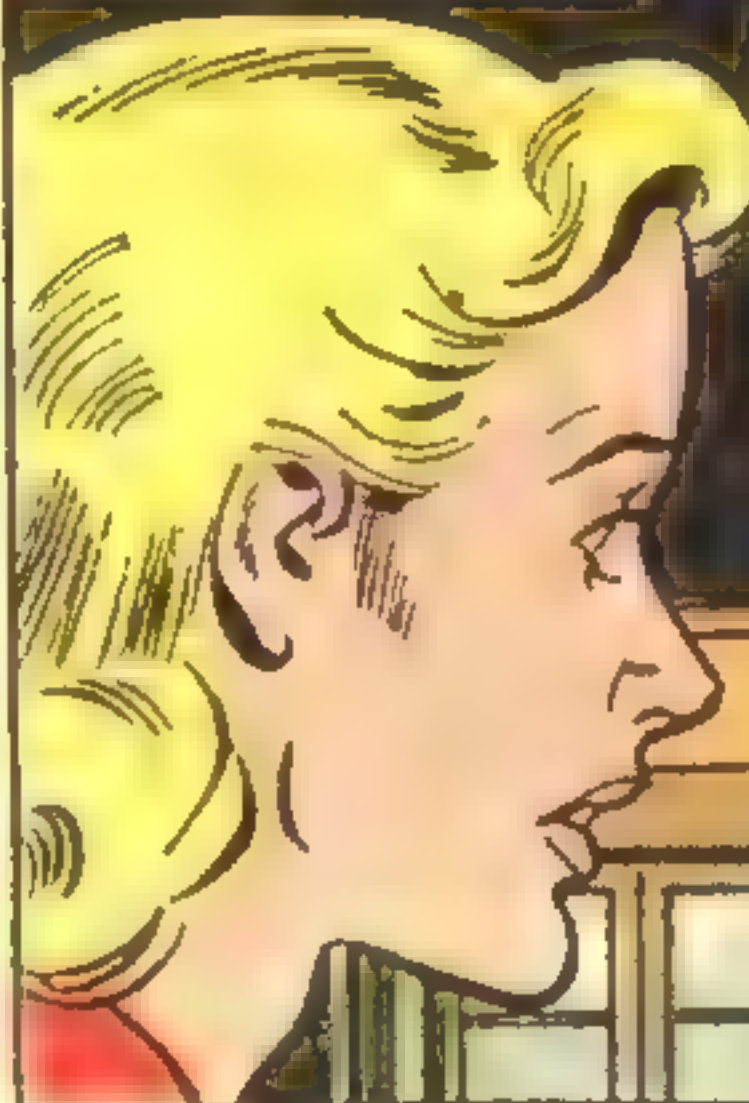
THAT'S WHAT SHE THINKS!

AS SUPERWOMAN STREAKS AWAY...

I FOOLED HER COMPLETELY. THAT WASN'T GOLD K AT ALL. I STILL HAVE ALL MY POWERS, AND I'LL PROVE IT BY TOSSING THIS FAKE GOLD K INTO SPACE! HA, HA! WAIT TILL SUPERWOMAN DISCOVERS WHY I TRICKED HER!



NEXT DAY, SUPERWOMAN VISITS HER COUSIN AT THE ORPHANAGE...



CAL, I'M SORRY YOU LOST YOUR POWERS. I'LL WORK NIGHT AND DAY TO FIND A WAY TO RESTORE THEM. MEANWHILE, STAY HERE AT THE ORPHANAGE... AND DON'T DESPAIR!

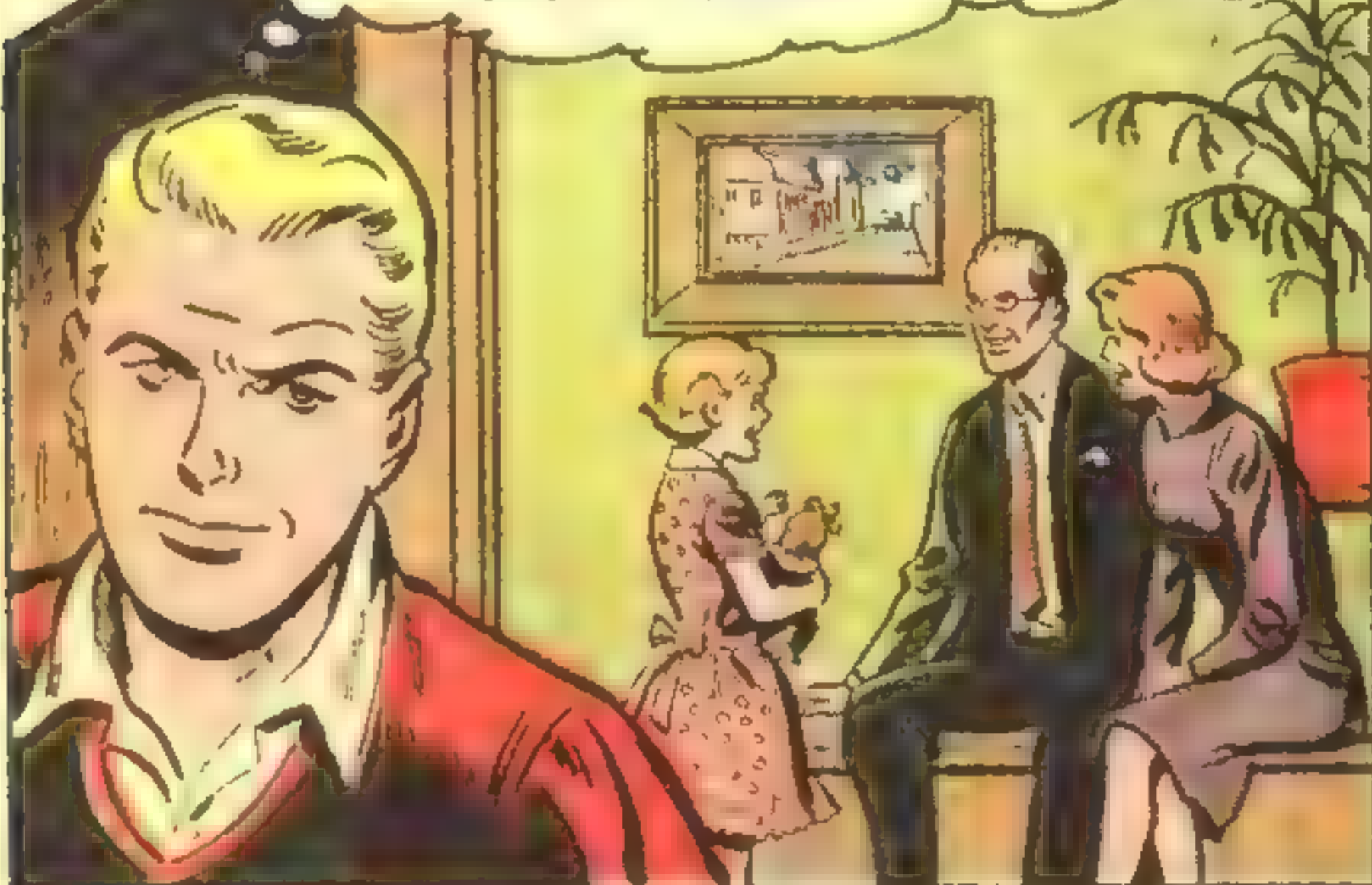
THANKS, SUPERWOMAN!

SHE DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT I'M PLANNING TO LEAVE THIS PLACE AS SOON AS I CAN.



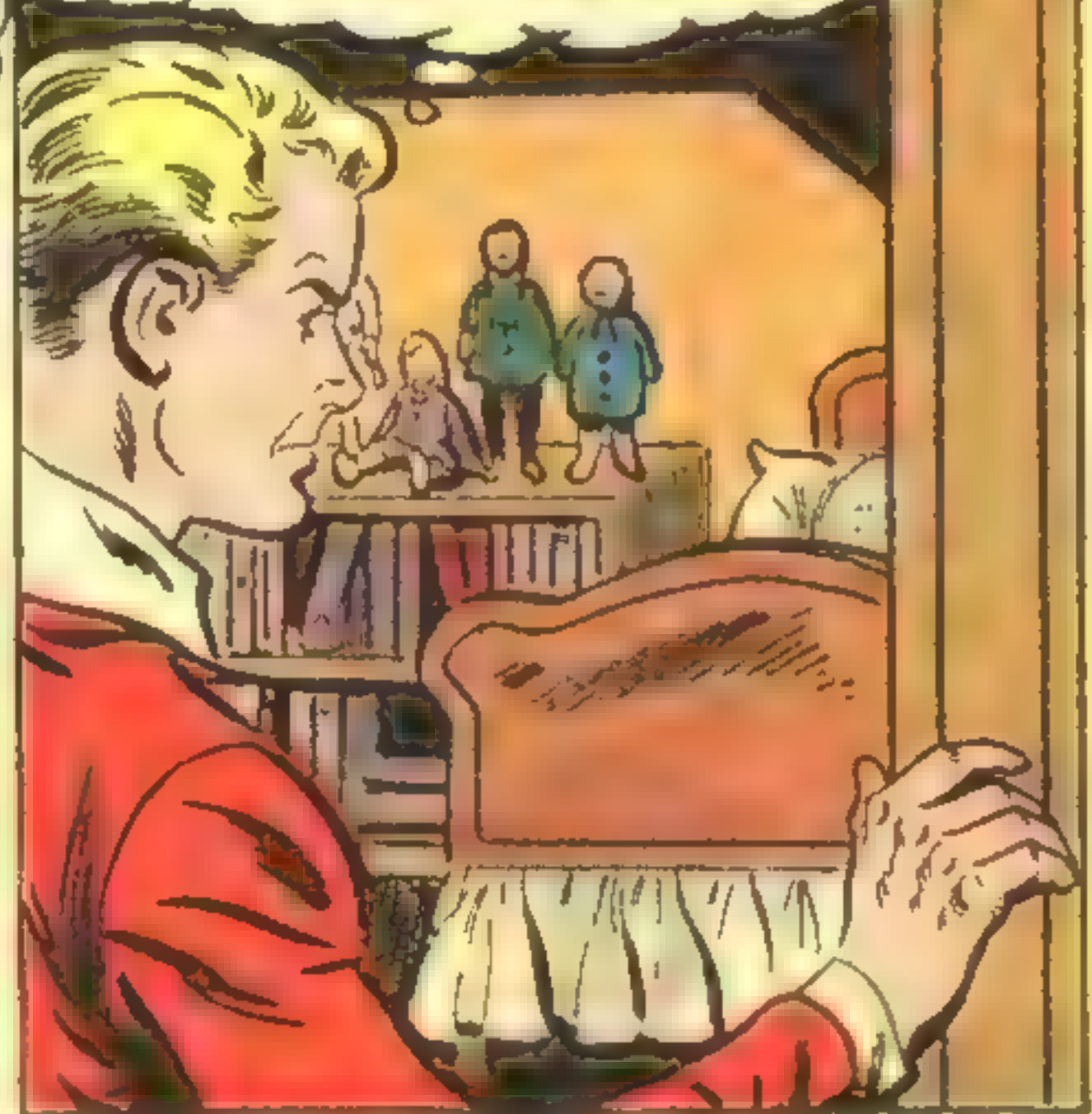
YES, CAL HAS EVEN CHOSEN THE FOSTER-PARENTS HE PREFERS...

IT'S DR. KEAN, THE FAMOUS PHYSICIST. HE AND HIS WIFE WOULD FIT IN PERFECTLY WITH MY SCHEME! BUT THEY SEEM INTERESTED IN ADOPTING MY FELLOW ORPHAN, DIANE! ... HMM... I'LL FIX THAT!



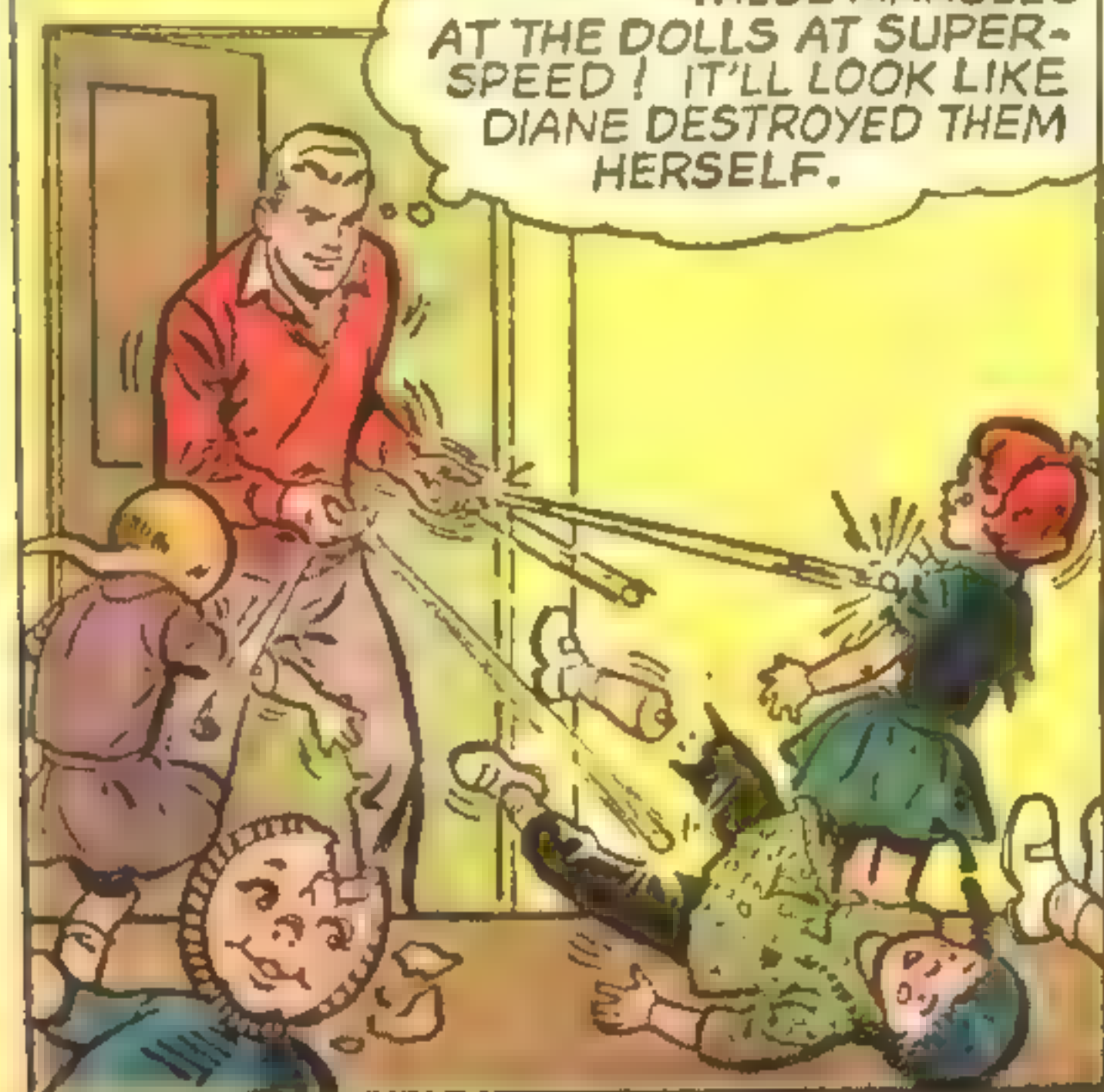
SOON, INSIDE DIANE'S ROOM...

DIANE HAS A HOBBY OF COLLECTING DOLLS... THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA HOW TO MAKE THE KEANS LOSE INTEREST IN ADOPTING HER.



SOON AFTERWARD...

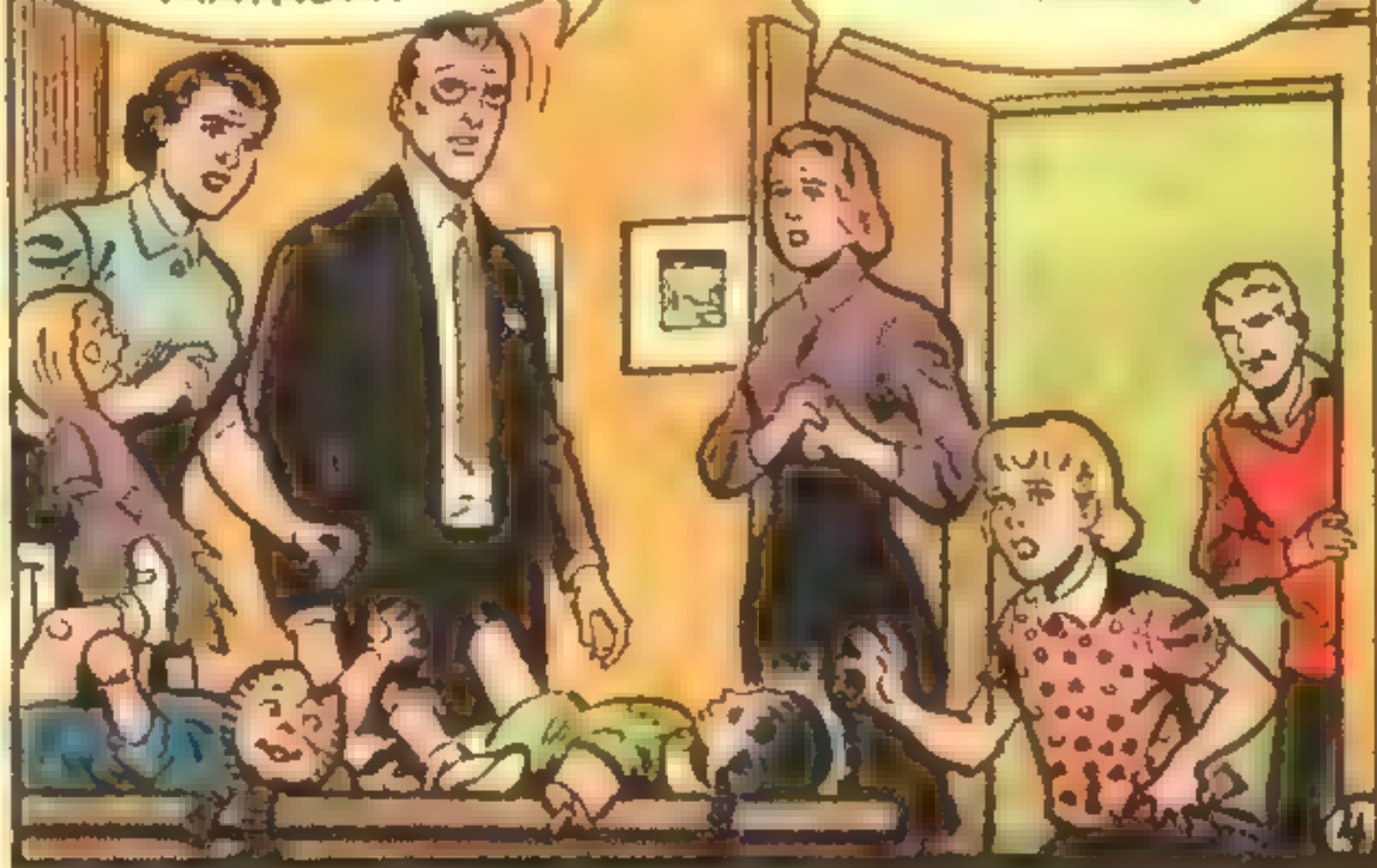
I'LL SHOOT THESE MARBLES AT THE DOLLS AT SUPER-SPEED! IT'LL LOOK LIKE DIANE DESTROYED THEM HERSELF.



AND THE CRUEL SCHEME WORKS, AS THE KEANS VISIT DIANE'S ROOM...

WHY, THOSE DOLLS ARE ALL MUTILATED! I'M AFRAID THAT WE CAN'T ADOPT DIANE AFTER ALL, MATRON.

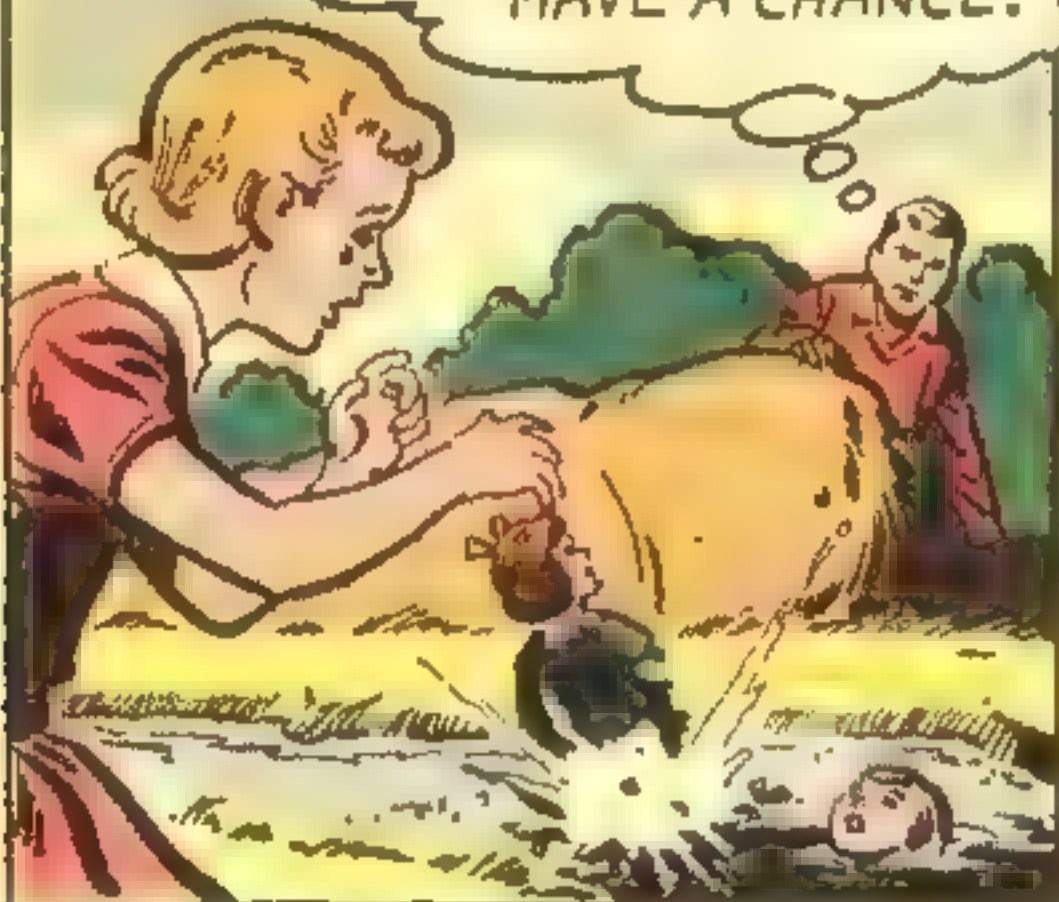
WE HAVE SEVERAL PETS AT HOME. IF DIANE IS SO DESTRUCTIVE, SHE MIGHT HARM THEM!



BROKEN-HEARTED, THE LITTLE ORPHAN CARRIES HER SHATTERED DOLLS TO A BROOK, AND ...

♪ SNIFF! ♪ YOU'RE ALL TORN AND BROKEN! ♪ SNIFF! SNIFF! ♪ WHO WANTS YOU NOW? IT'S A MOTHER AND DAD I WANTED... ♪ CHOKE! ♪ AND NOW I CAN'T HAVE THEM.

NOW THAT THE KEANS HAVE REJECTED DIANE, MAYBE I'LL HAVE A CHANCE.

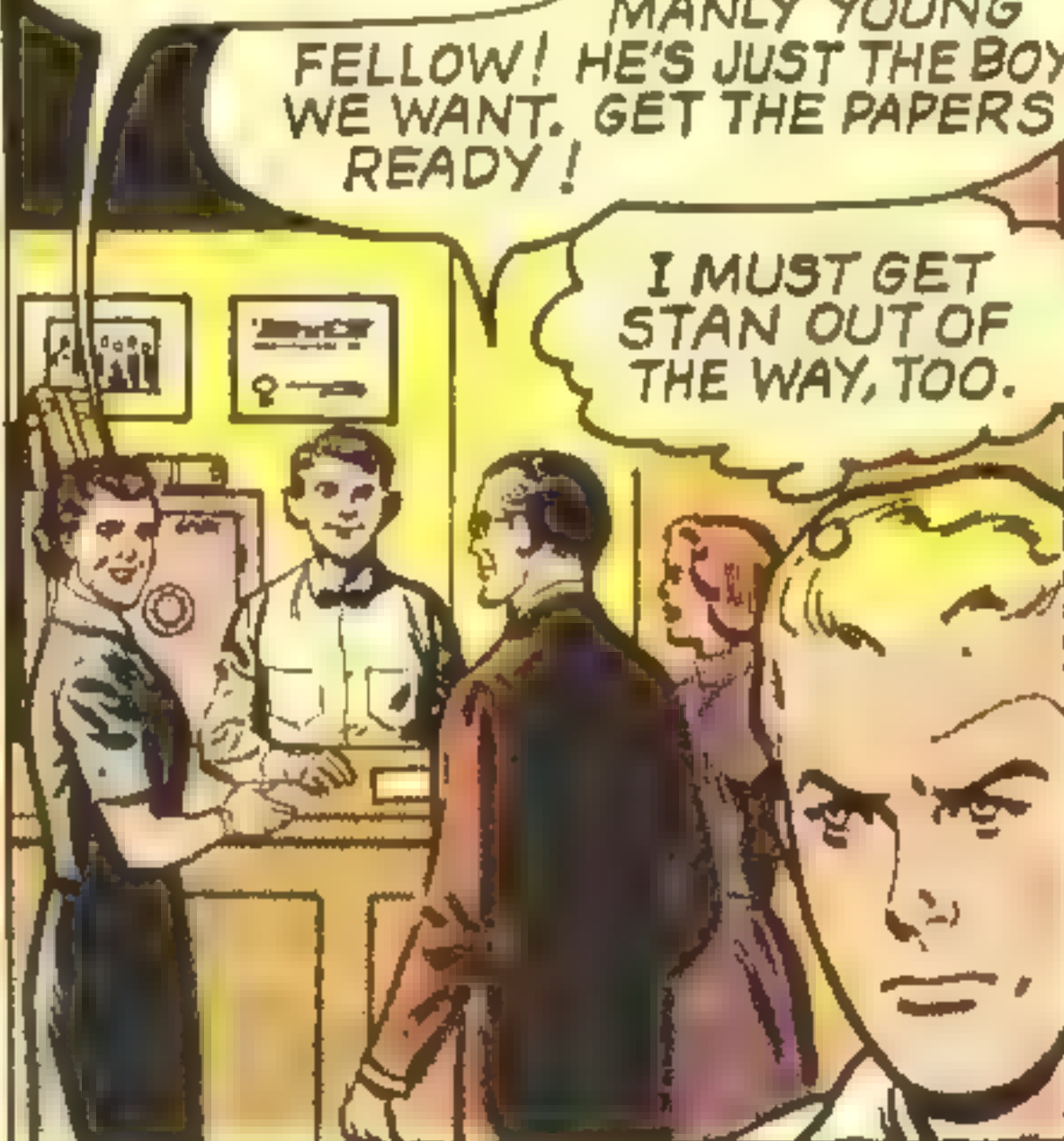


BUT TO CAL'S CHAGRIN, THE KEAN'S ARE INTERESTED IN ANOTHER LAD...

YOU'LL LIKE STAN. HE'S VERY RESPONSIBLE. WE PUT HIM IN CHARGE OF OUR RECEPTION DESK. HE GREET'S ALL OUR GUESTS.

A BRIGHT, MANLY YOUNG FELLOW! HE'S JUST THE BOY WE WANT. GET THE PAPERS READY!

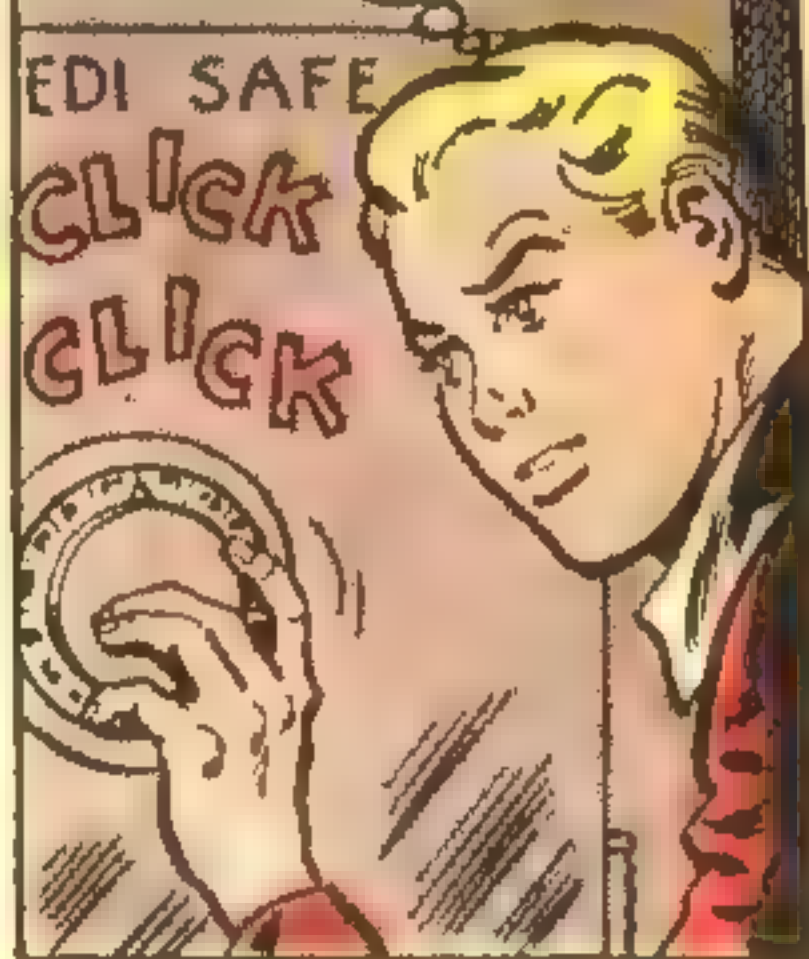
I MUST GET STAN OUT OF THE WAY, TOO.



LATER, AS STAN GOES TO HIS ROOM TO PACK...

I HAVE A FOOL-PROOF SCHEME. FIRST I'LL OPEN THE ORPHANAGE SAFE. MY SUPER-HEARING WILL DETECT THE MOVEMENT OF THE TUMBLERS IN THE LOCK AS I TURN THE COMBINATION DIAL.

EDI SAFE
CLICK
CLICK



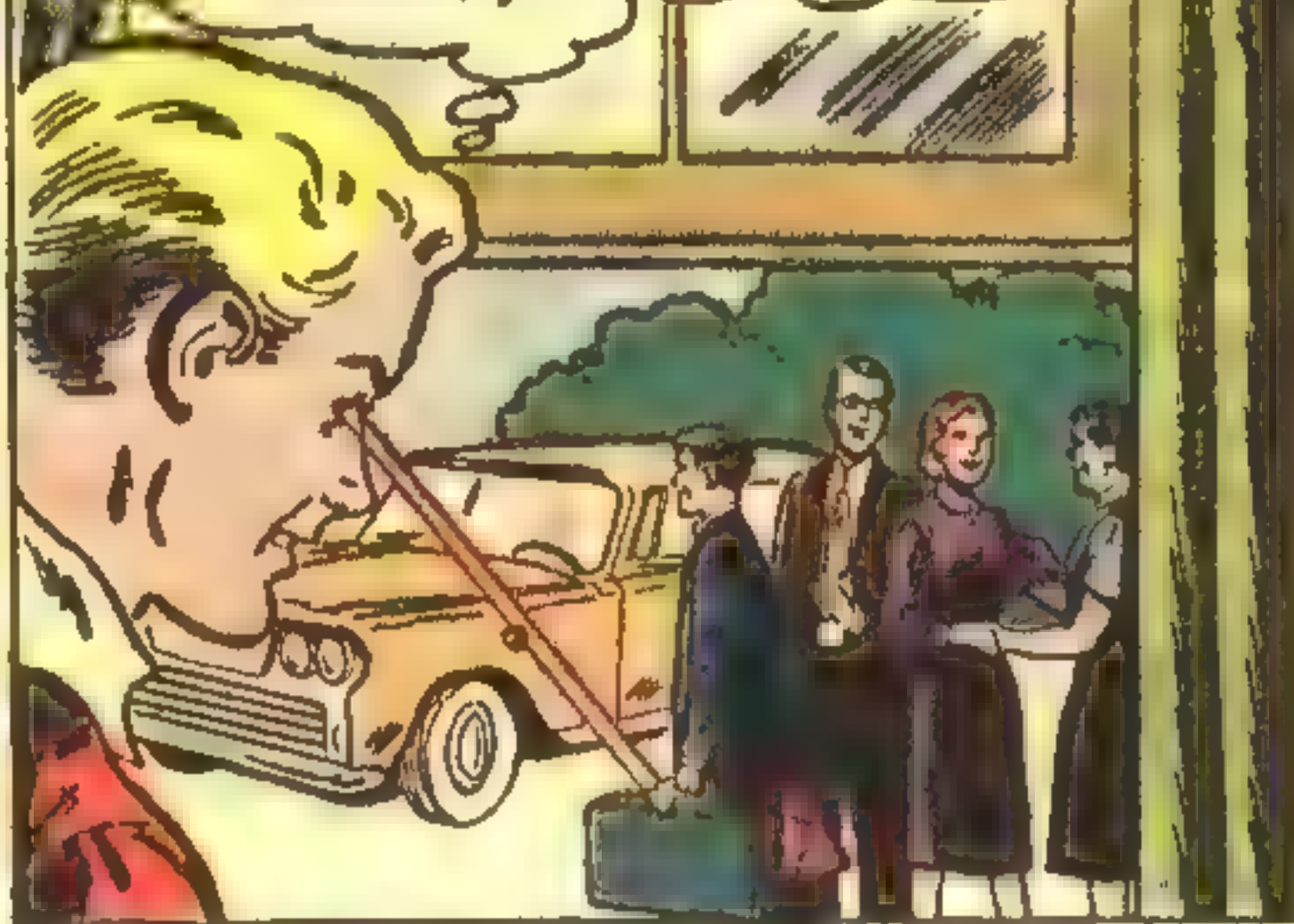
THEN, AS STAN PREPARES TO LEAVE ...

THE SAFE CONTAINED VALUABLES BELONGING TO SEVERAL OF THE ORPHANS. I'LL PLANT SOME OF THESE RINGS, WATCHES AND LOCKETS IN STAN'S SUITCASE WHILE HE SAYS GOODBYE.



BUT AS STAN GOES THROUGH THE DOOR ...

THIS IS IT! I'LL FOCUS MY HEAT VISION ON THE METAL LINK OF THE HANDLE ON STAN'S SUITCASE! ... THERE! THAT DOES IT!



LOOK! VALUABLES FROM THE ORPHANAGE SAFE! STAN WAS STEALING THEM!

B-BUT I DIDN'T! BELIEVE ME ...

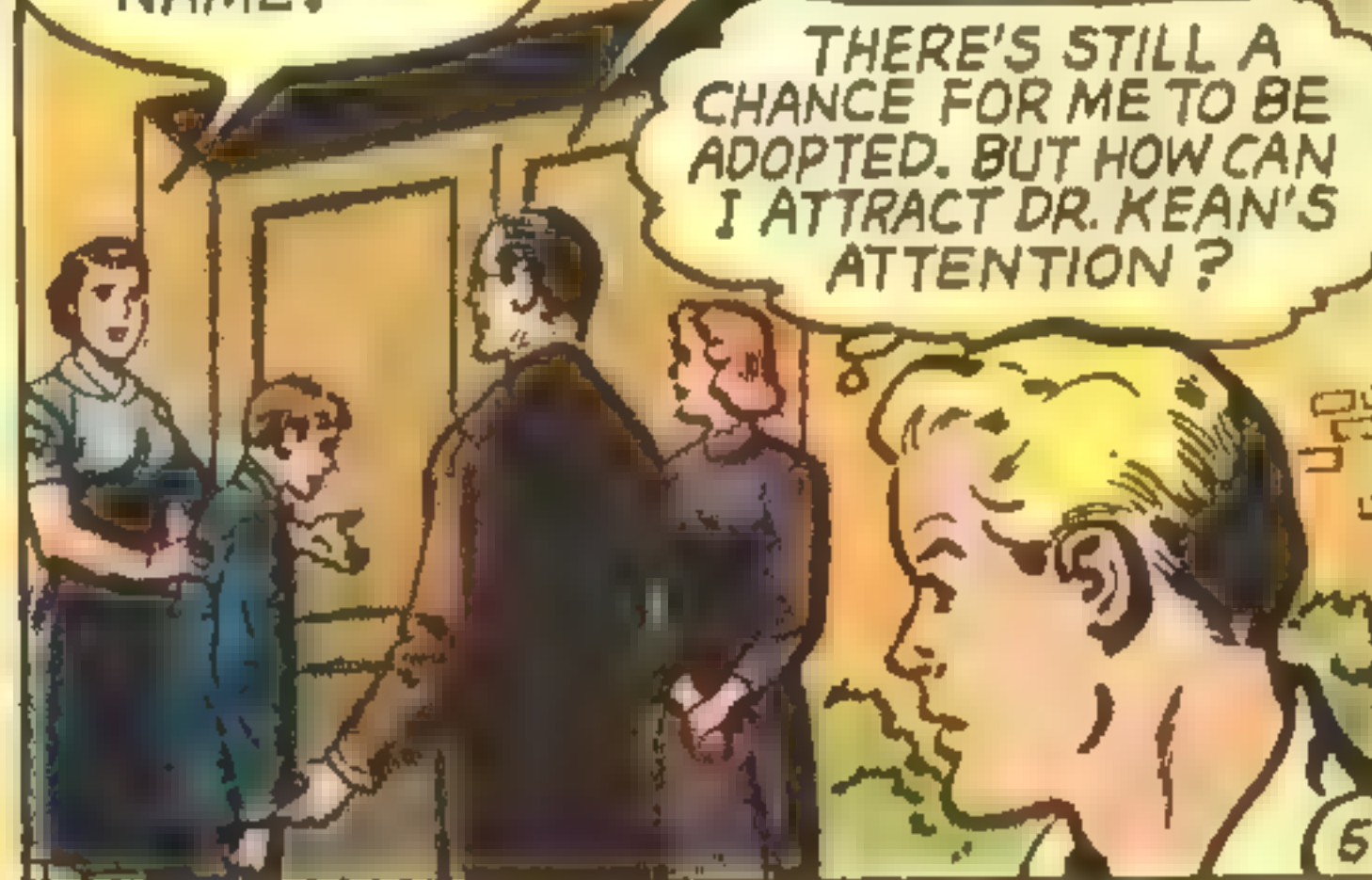
MATRON... ER... EVERY BOY MAKES A SLIP OCCASIONALLY. I THINK WE SHOULD OVERLOOK THIS. I'M READY TO FORGIVE STAN!



I'M SORRY, DR. KEAN, BUT WE CAN'T RELEASE STAN UNTIL WE'RE SURE WE'VE CURED HIM OF STEALING! WE DON'T WANT THE ORPHANAGE TO GET A BAD NAME.

YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT WE'RE STILL INTERESTED IN ADOPTING A CHILD. IS THERE ANYONE ELSE YOU'D RECOMMEND?

THERE'S STILL A CHANCE FOR ME TO BE ADOPTED. BUT HOW CAN I ATTRACT DR. KEAN'S ATTENTION?



THEN, INSIDE ...

PLEASE WAIT OUT HERE WHILE WE CHECK OUR FILES, DR. KEAN.

THANK YOU. IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL USE THE TIME TO WORK OUT SOME MATHEMATICAL PROBLEMS ON THIS BLACKBOARD.

HMM...THIS COULD BE THE BREAK I'M LOOKING FOR.

THEN, BY A TWIST OF FATE, DR. KEAN IS CALLED INTO THE OFFICE, AND ...

I'LL CATCH DR. KEAN'S ATTENTION BY FINISHING THIS COMPLICATED MATHEMATICAL FORMULA. THE SOLUTION IS CHILD'S PLAY TO MY SUPER-BRAIN, OPERATING AT SUPER-SPEED.

PRESENTLY, AS DR. KEAN EMERGES ...

THIS IS AMAZING! SOMEONE SOLVED THIS COMPLEX EQUATION... WHO DID IT?

ER... I DID, SIR! I COULDN'T RESIST THE PROBLEM. YOU SEE, MY HOBBY IS MATHEMATICS.

MY BOY, YOU HAVE AN AMAZING TALENT! I'M A SCIENTIST! YOU SEEM LIKE JUST THE SON I'VE ALWAYS WANTED. HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME AND LIVE WITH US?

WE'D BE SO HAPPY TO HAVE YOU!

I'D BE DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU AS MY PARENTS.

THEY FELL FOR IT! HA, HA!

THE FORMALITIES ARE SWIFTLY COMPLETED. LATER, CAL IS TAKEN TO METROPOLIS, WHERE ...

WE LIVE IN THE APARTMENT BELOW, SON. THIS PENTHOUSE LABORATORY IS WHERE I WORK. COMPUTERS, A COMPLETE LABORATORY... YOU CAN USE IT WHENEVER YOU LIKE.

THANK YOU, DAD!

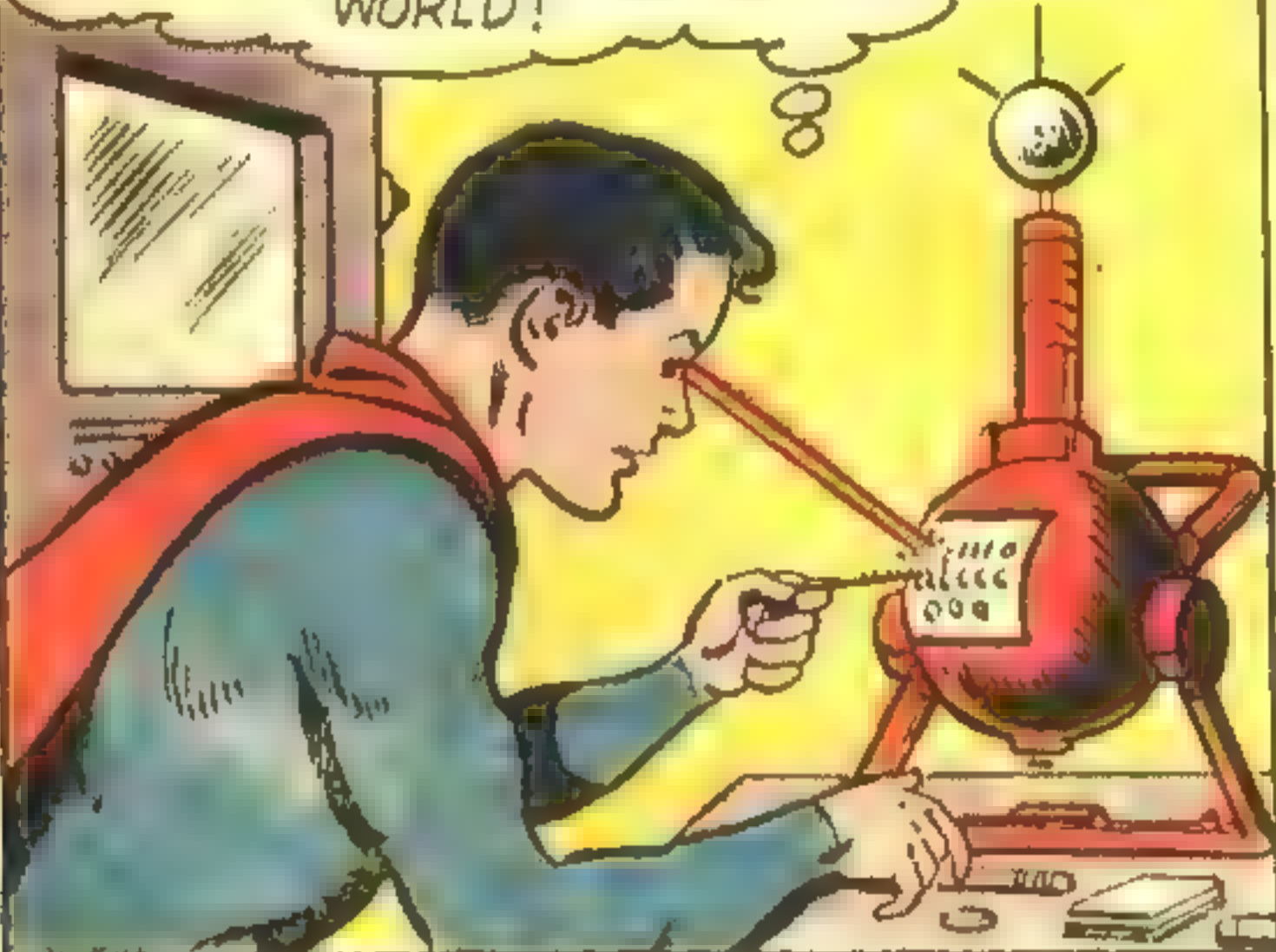
A LAB OF MY OWN! THIS FITS IN PERFECTLY WITH MY PLAN!

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, CAL WORKS CONSTANTLY IN THE LABORATORY ...

MY FOSTER-PARENTS ARE AT A PHYSICS CONFERENCE, SO I HAVE THE LAB TO MYSELF... I'VE SET THE COMPUTER TO CALCULATE BLUEPRINTS FOR SPECIAL DEVICES I'LL NEED FOR MY ANTI-SUPERWOMAN PLANS.

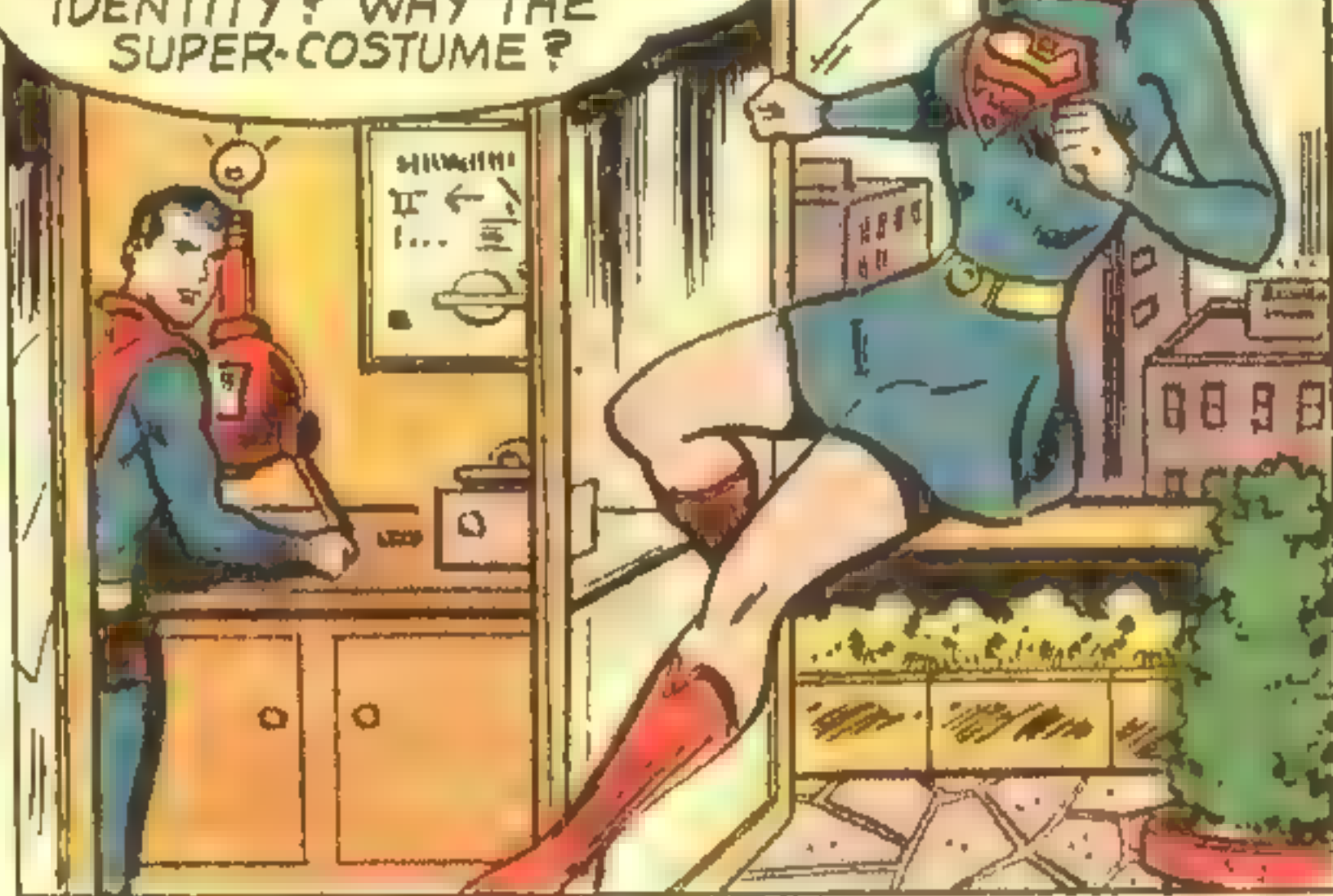
AND AS SUPERBOY CONSTRUCTS HIS MYSTERIOUS EQUIPMENT...

I'LL WORK IN MY SUPER-COSTUME. I MIGHT AS WELL GET USED TO WEARING IT CONSTANTLY. IF MY SCHEME WORKS, IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE SUPERBOY RULES THE WORLD!



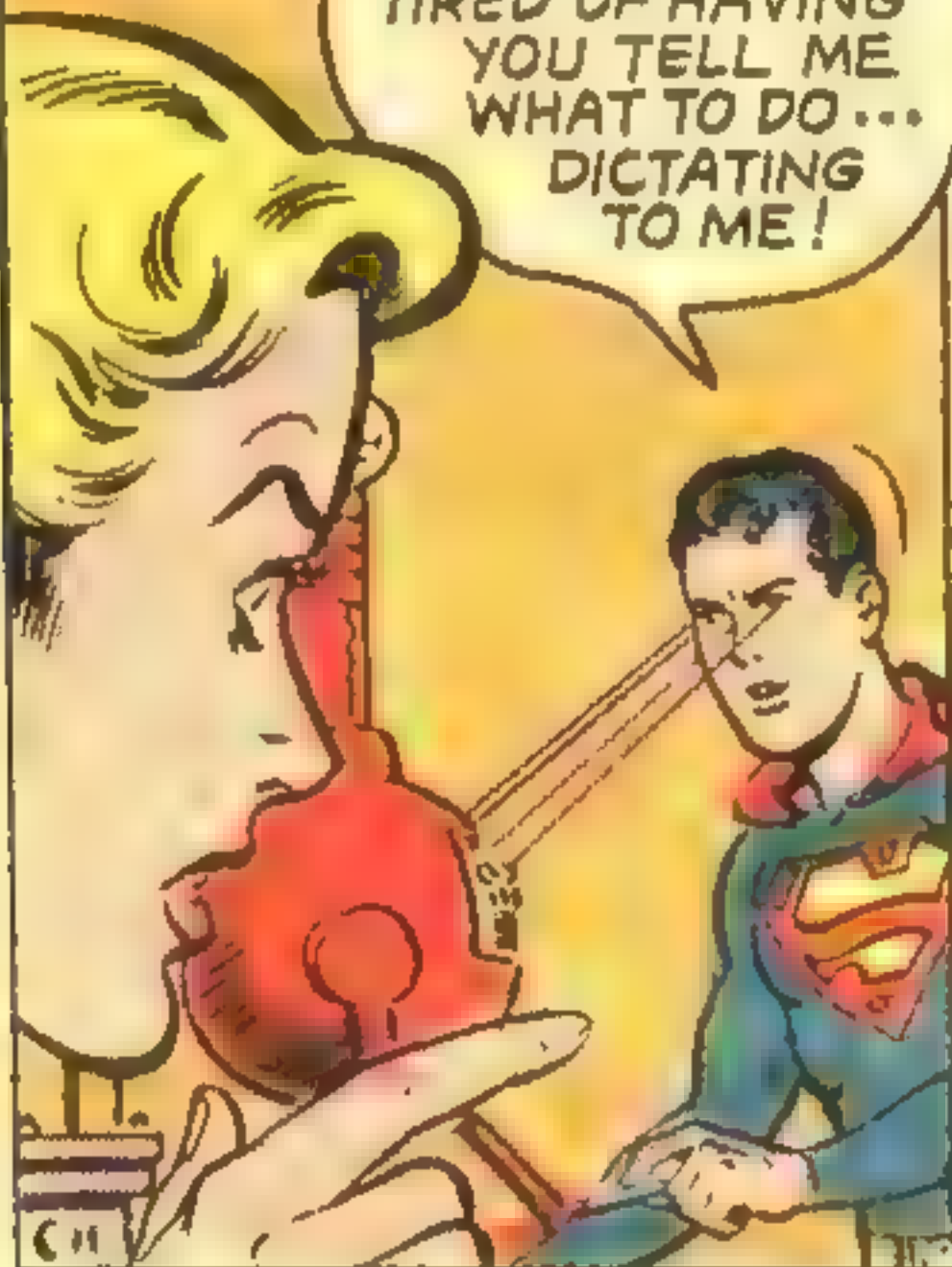
THEN, ONE MORNING...

CAL! THE ORPHANAGE TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR ADOPTION! I DROPPED IN TO SEE HOW YOU WERE DOING... BUT WHY AREN'T YOU IN YOUR CAL IDENTITY? WHY THE SUPER-COSTUME?



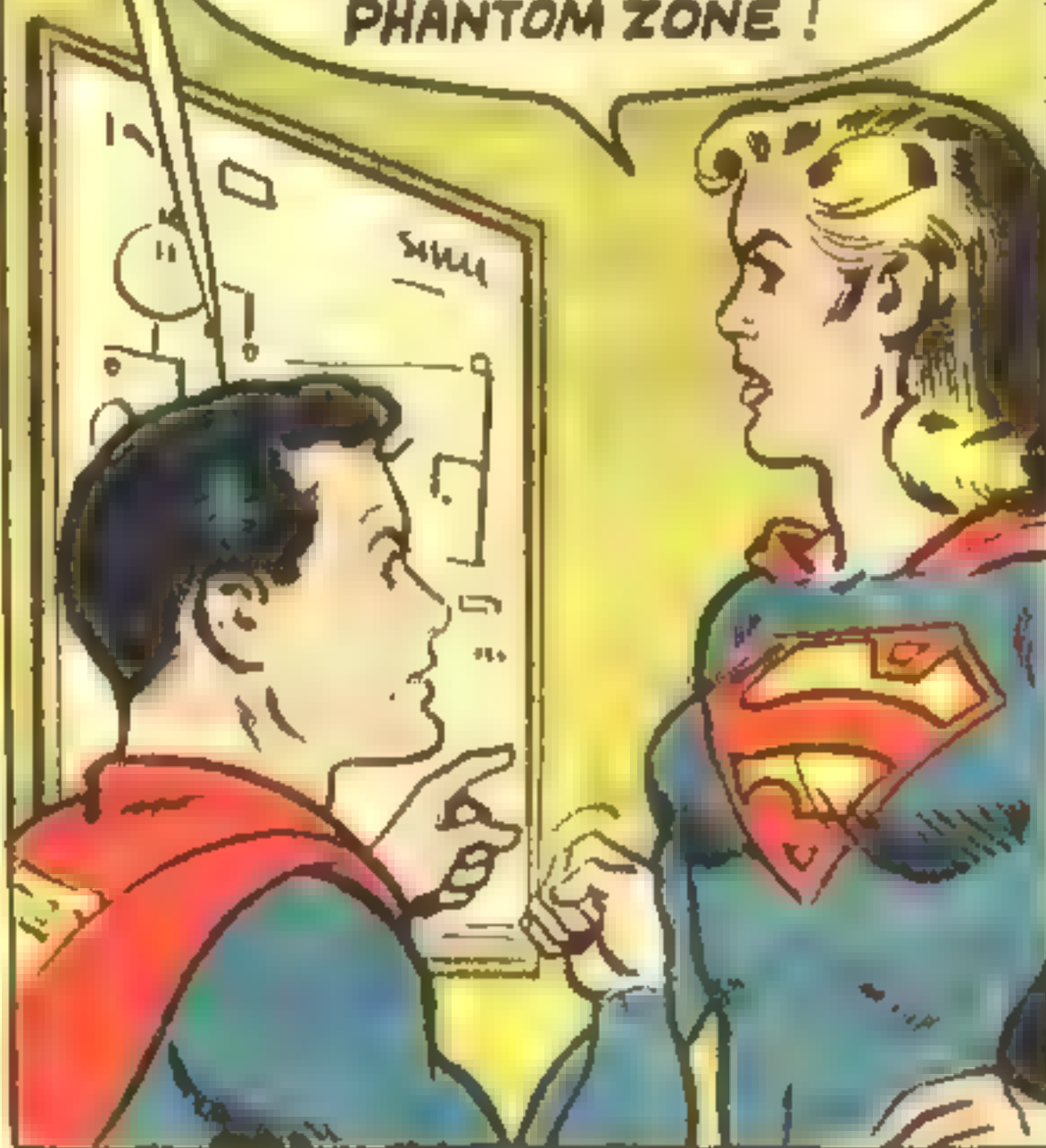
WAIT! YOU'RE USING YOUR HEAT VISION TO WELD THOSE METAL PARTS! THEN THAT STORY ABOUT GOLD K TAKING AWAY YOUR ABILITIES WAS A HOAX! WHY DID YOU TRICK ME?

BECAUSE I WAS TIRED OF HAVING YOU TELL ME WHAT TO DO... DICTATING TO ME!



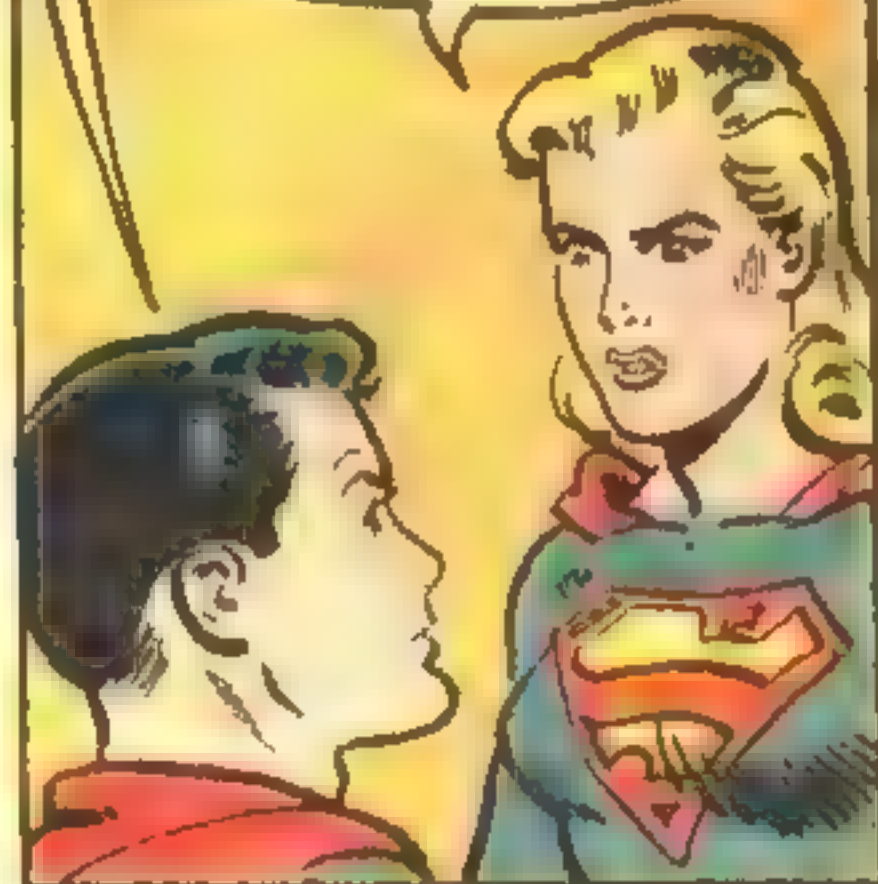
I'M THROUGH BEING YOUR STOOGIE. I'LL USE MY POWERS ANY WAY I WANT TO. YOU CAN'T STOP ME! I'VE BROKEN NO LAW.

I SEE WHAT YOU'RE DOING! YOU'RE BUILDING A DEVICE THAT WILL RELEASE SUPER-CRIMINALS FROM THE PHANTOM ZONE!



THAT'S RIGHT! I KNOW ALL ABOUT THAT TWILIGHT DIMENSION, WHERE KRYPTON SENT ITS CONVICTS! I LEARNED ABOUT THEM IN ARGO CITY! ONCE I RELEASE THEM, THEY'LL HELP ME DEFEAT YOU AND TAKE OVER EARTH.

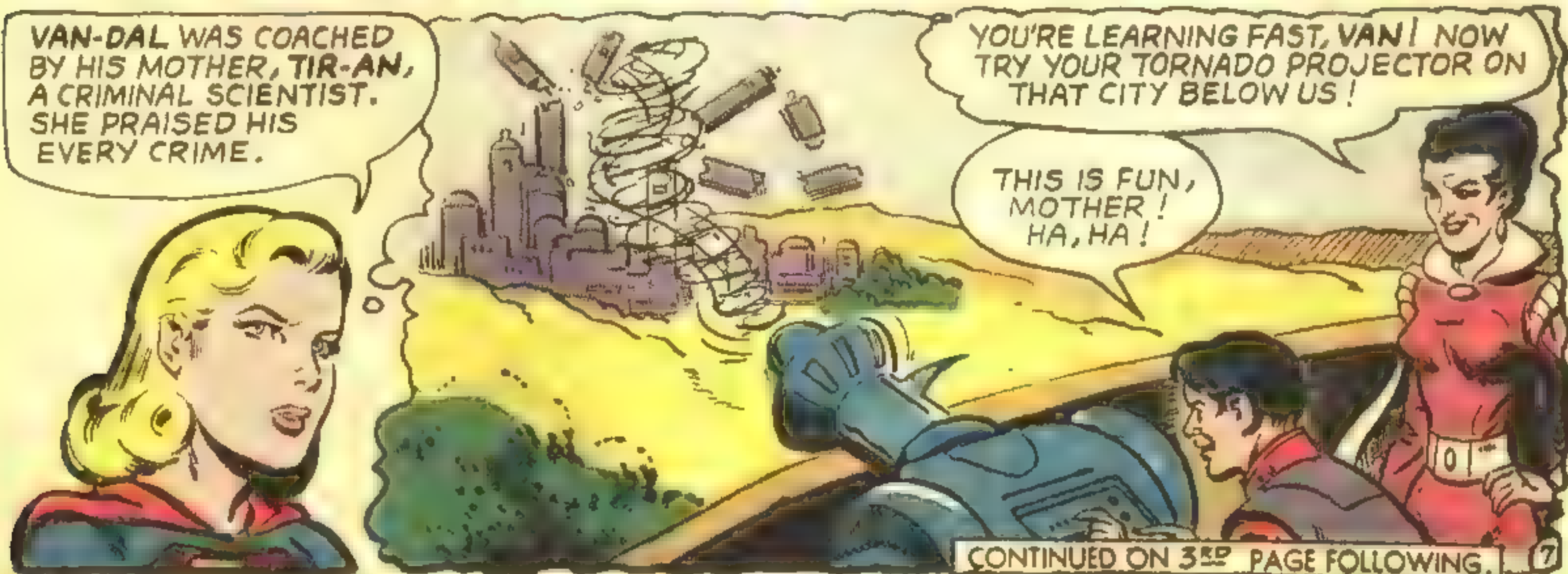
WHAT A DREADFUL PLOT! YOU REMIND ME OF VAN-DAL, THE WORST JUVENILE DELINQUENT ON OLD KRYPTON.



VAN-DAL WAS COACHED BY HIS MOTHER, TIR-AN, A CRIMINAL SCIENTIST. SHE PRAISED HIS EVERY CRIME.

YOU'RE LEARNING FAST, VAN! NOW TRY YOUR TORNADO PROJECTOR ON THAT CITY BELOW US!

THIS IS FUN, MOTHER! HA, HA!



CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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 DNA **LRIGREPUS?** OS TAHW FI UOY
 NAC TEG EHT EMAS LAED NEHW UOY
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BETTER SUBSCRIBE QUICK, FANS--
 BEFORE I TRICK **MR. MXYZPTLK** INTO
 SAYING HIS **NAME** BACKWARDS--AND
 THIS OFFER VANISHES WITH HIM!



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• BUT THE CRIMINALS WERE CAPTURED, AND ... "

YOUR CRIMES WERE SO TERRIBLE
WE WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO MIX WITH
OTHER CONVICTS! THEREFORE, WE
COMMIT YOU TO SOLITARY CONFINEMENT
IN **SECTOR ZERO** IN THE
PHANTOM ZONE!

BAH! YOU DON'T
FRIGHTEN US!

WHEN **SUPERWOMAN** ENDS
HER STORY ...

THIS
VAN-DAL SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT
GUY! SO IF YOU'RE TRYING TO
SCARE ME, FORGET IT. NOW,
GET LOST, **SUPERWOMAN**!
FROM NOW ON, IT'S **WAR**
BETWEEN US!

AS
YOU WISH,
SUPERBOY!...

CHOKES! MY OWN
COUSIN... A MENACE
TO EARTH! I MUST
STOP HIM, SOMEHOW!

SOON, AS **SUPERWOMAN** SWITCHES
TO HER OTHER IDENTITY... **CAROLE**
ZORELLE, PRIVATE DETECTIVE ...

JIMMY, I NEED
YOUR HELP ON
A VITAL
CASE!

WANT ME
TO FIND SOME
STOLEN JEWELS?
TAIL A KILLER?
JIMMY OLSEN'S
YOUR MAN,
CHIEF.

YES, READER, IN THIS STORY,
JIMMY IS A PRIVATE EYE INSTEAD
OF A CUB REPORTER.

THEN, DUCKING INTO A CLOSET,
CAROLE SWITCHES AT **SUPER-**
SPEED ...

JIMMY, I'M
TRUSTING YOU WITH MY
GREATEST SECRET! I'M
REALLY **SUPERWOMAN**!
I'M IN DESPERATE TROUBLE.
YOU MUST ASSIST ME ON
A DANGEROUS MISSION.

SUPERWOMAN!
HOLY COW! I'LL DO
ANYTHING YOU SAY!
JUST NAME IT!

MEANWHILE, IN HER ARCTIC FORTRESS, **SUPER-**
WOMAN'S ROBOTS STAND GUARD...

SUPERBOY SEEMS DETERMINED
TO BUILD THAT **PHANTOM ZONE**
ESCAPE DEVICE! **SUPER-**
WOMAN IS TOO SOFT-
HEARTED TO DO WHAT
MUST BE DONE.

YOU'RE
RIGHT, X-21!
IT'S UP TO US.
WE MUST ERASE
HIS POWERS WITH
GOLD KRYPTONITE!

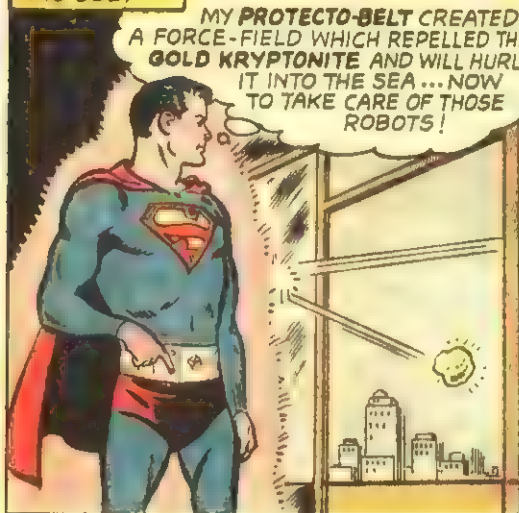
GOLD
KRYPTONITE
CAUSES PERMANENT
LOSS OF POWER

BUT **SUPERBOY** IS ON THE ALERT, AND ...

LUCKILY, I JUST FINISHED THIS **PROTECTO-**
BELT, WHICH THE COMPUTER HELPED ME
DESIGN. THE ALARM DETECTS THE
APPROACH OF **GOLD KRYPTONITE**. I
SEE **SUPERWOMAN**'S ROBOTS ARE
HEADING THIS WAY!

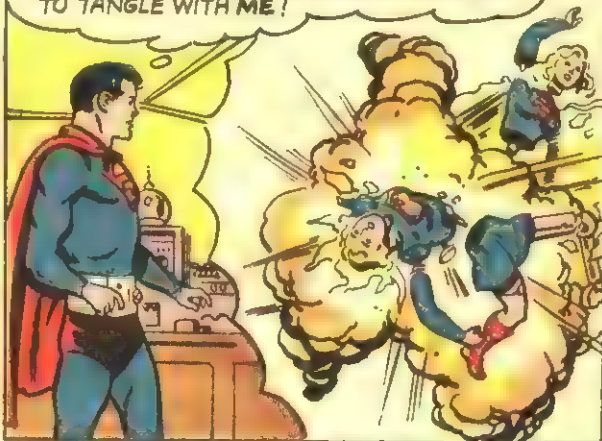
AS SUPERBOY PRESSES A BUTTON ON HIS BELT ...

MY PROTECTO-BELT CREATED A FORCE-FIELD WHICH REPELLED THE GOLD KRYPTONITE AND WILL HURL IT INTO THE SEA ... NOW TO TAKE CARE OF THOSE ROBOTS!



THEN, AS HE TOUCHES A SECOND BUTTON...

MY BELT SENT OUT A HYPER-ENERGY FORCE-BOLT WHICH SHATTERED THE ROBOTS. THAT SHOULD TEACH SUPERWOMAN NOT TO TANGLE WITH ME!



AS HE RESUMES WORK ON THE ZONE-RELEASE DEVICE, THE BOY OF STEEL HEARS A WEIRD VOICE ...

ATTENTION, SUPERBOY! THE PHANTOM ZONE CALLING YOU TELEPATHICALLY. YOU HAVE ACCIDENTALLY COMPLETED SOME OF THE CIRCUITS IN YOUR DEVICE!

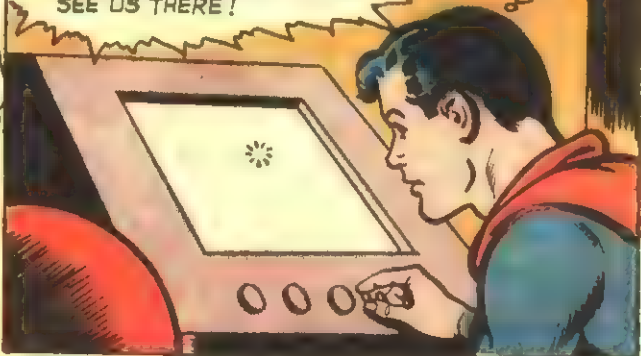
VOICES FROM THE ZONE CONTACTING ME MENTALLY! I'LL LOOK THROUGH THE VIEW-FINDER AND SEE WHO IT IS.



BUT SUPERBOY SEARCHES IN VAIN ...

YOUR EFFORTS ARE USELESS. THERE IS TOO MUCH ELECTRONIC DISTURBANCE FROM A NEARBY TELEVISION STATION! TAKE YOUR DEVICE TO RIVERSIDE PARK, OUTSIDE METROPOLIS. YOU'LL SEE US THERE!

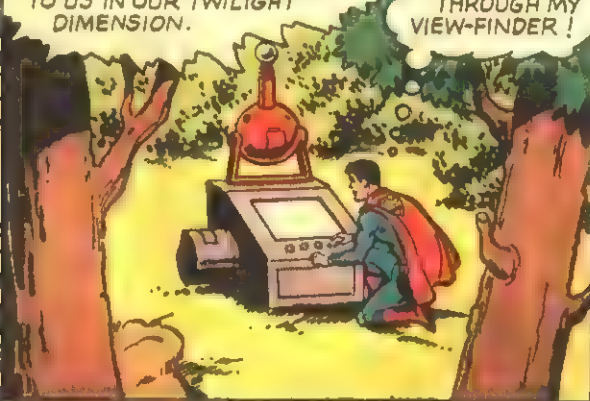
RIVERSIDE PARK! I'LL GO THERE AT ONCE!



SOON, AS SUPERBOY SETS UP THE ZONE-RELEASE MACHINE IN A SECLUDED SPOT IN THE PARK ...

SUPERBOY, WE ARE CLOSE BY! TURN YOUR LOCATOR-DIAL TO THE ZERO POSITION AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE US AND SPEAK TO US IN OUR TWILIGHT DIMENSION.

THERE! THE DIAL IS SET AT ZERO! NOW TO LOOK THROUGH MY VIEW-FINDER!



SUDDENLY, TWO WRAITHS APPEAR ...

I AM VAN-DAL AND THIS IS MY MOTHER, TIR-AN! WE ARE READY TO HELP YOU TAKE OVER EARTH! JUST TURN THE RELEASE SWITCH AND FREE US FROM THE ZONE!

VAN-DAL! THE KRYPTONIAN SUPER-DELINQUENT THAT SUPER-WOMAN TOLD ME ABOUT! WOW!

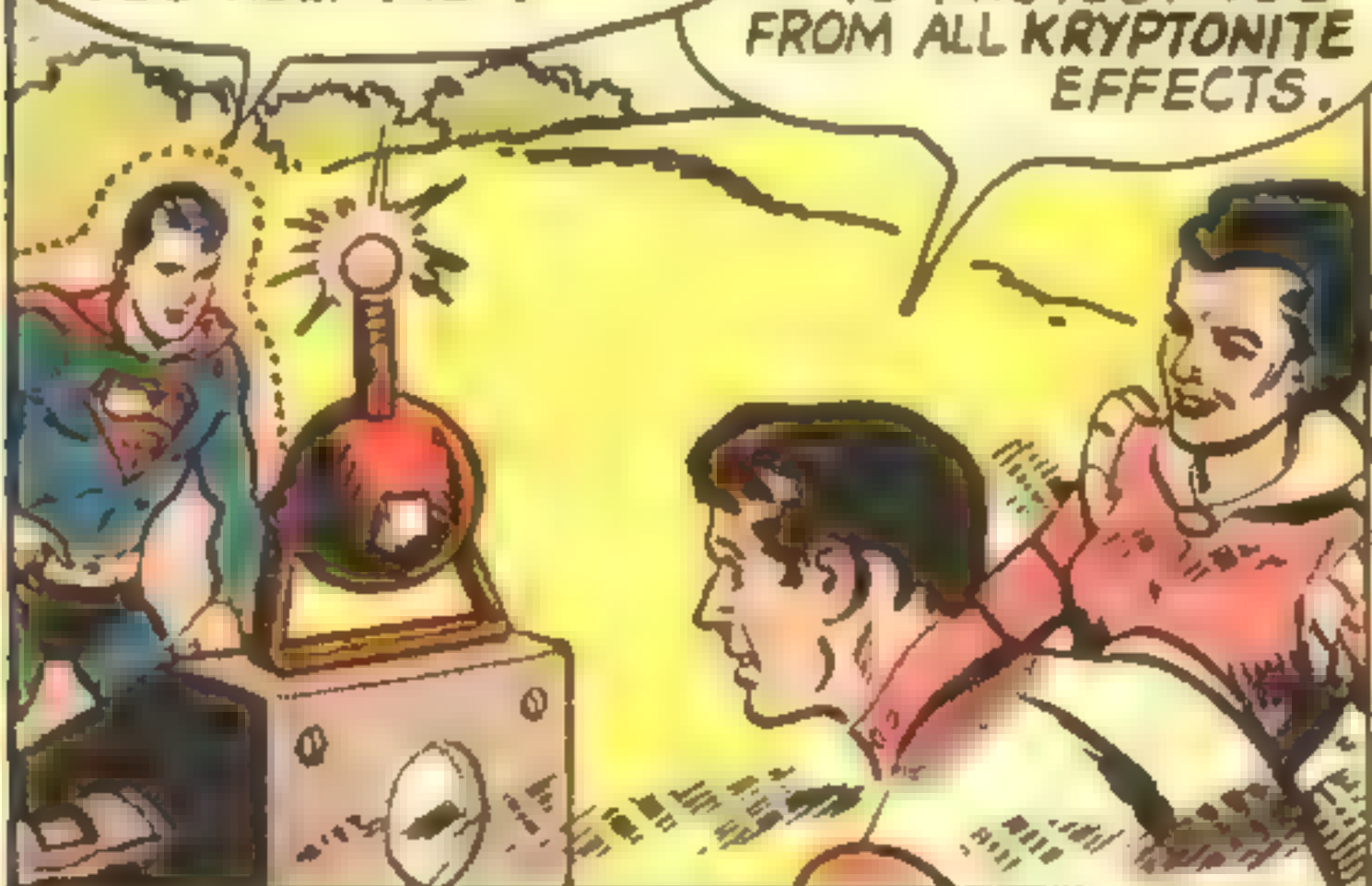
IT'S A DEAL! BUT FIRST I'LL ACTIVATE MY FORCE-SHIELD, IN CASE YOU TRY ANY TRICKS!



THE FORCE FIELD IS ACTIVATED... THEN SUPERBOY PRESSES THE ZONE RELEASE BUTTON...

YOU'RE MATERIALIZING!... THIS FORCE FIELD WILL PROTECT ME IF YOU TRY A DOUBLE-CROSS. NOW, HOW CAN YOU HELP ME?

I'VE SPENT YEARS STUDYING KRYPTONITE FROM THE ZONE. I CAN MAKE AN ANTIDOTE TO PROTECT YOU FROM ALL KRYPTONITE EFFECTS.



WATCH! I'LL DIRECT THE PREPARATION OF THE ANTIDOTE! MOTHER... SQUEEZE THE SAP FROM THAT OAK TREE... CRUSH THAT LIMESTONE ROCK TO POWDER... THEN EXTRACT THE JUICE FROM THAT THORN-BUSH.

I'LL DO IT ALL AT SUPER-SPEED, SON!



WHEN THE POTION IS MIXED...

YOU EXPECT ME TO DRINK THAT CONCOCTION? SUPPOSE IT'S A TRICK TO HARM ME? YOU TRY IT FIRST, VAN-DAL!

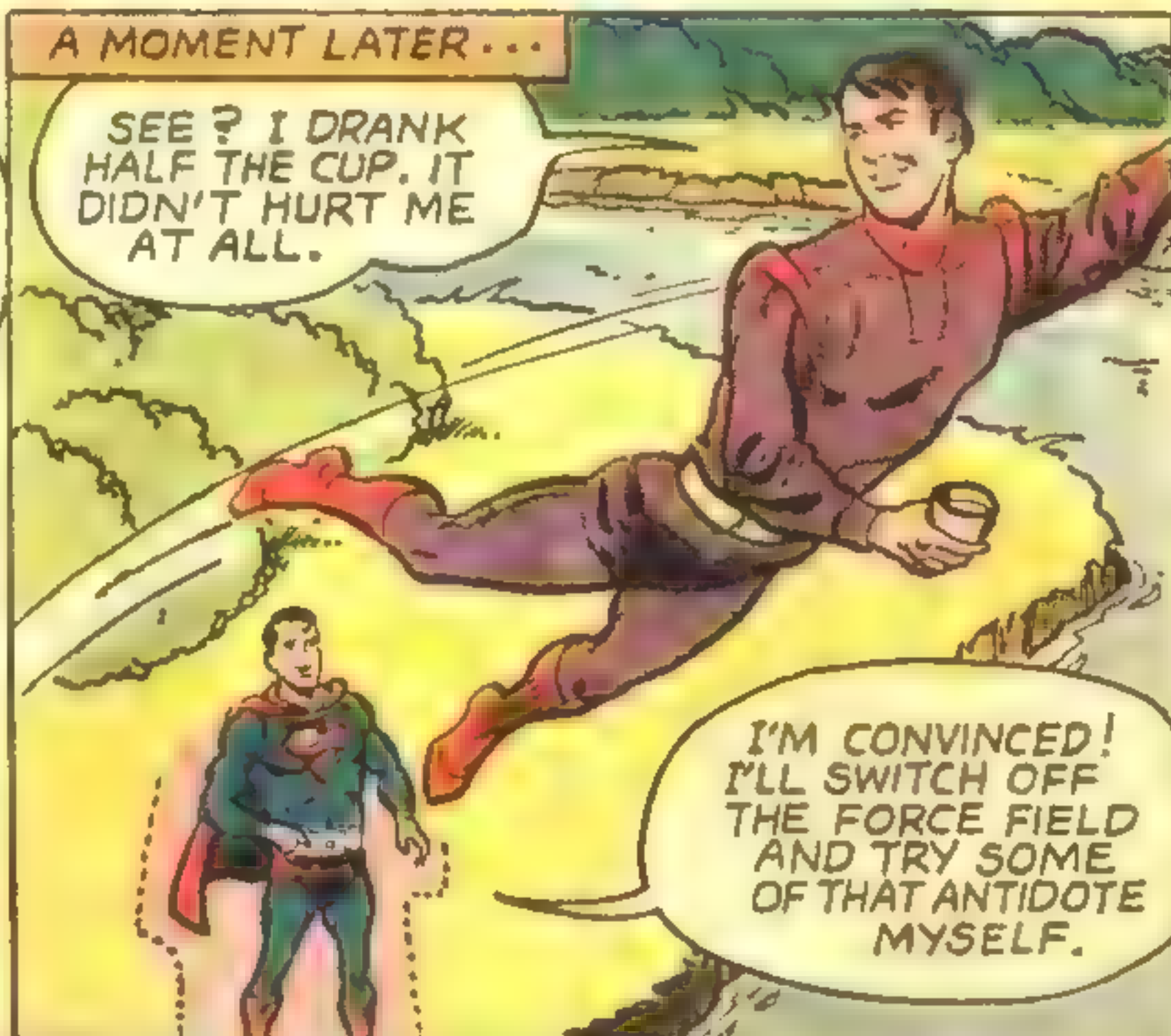
CHICKEN, EH? OKAY, SUPERBOY! I WANT TO BE IMMUNE TO KRYPTONITE, TOO!



A MOMENT LATER...

SEE? I DRANK HALF THE CUP. IT DIDN'T HURT ME AT ALL.

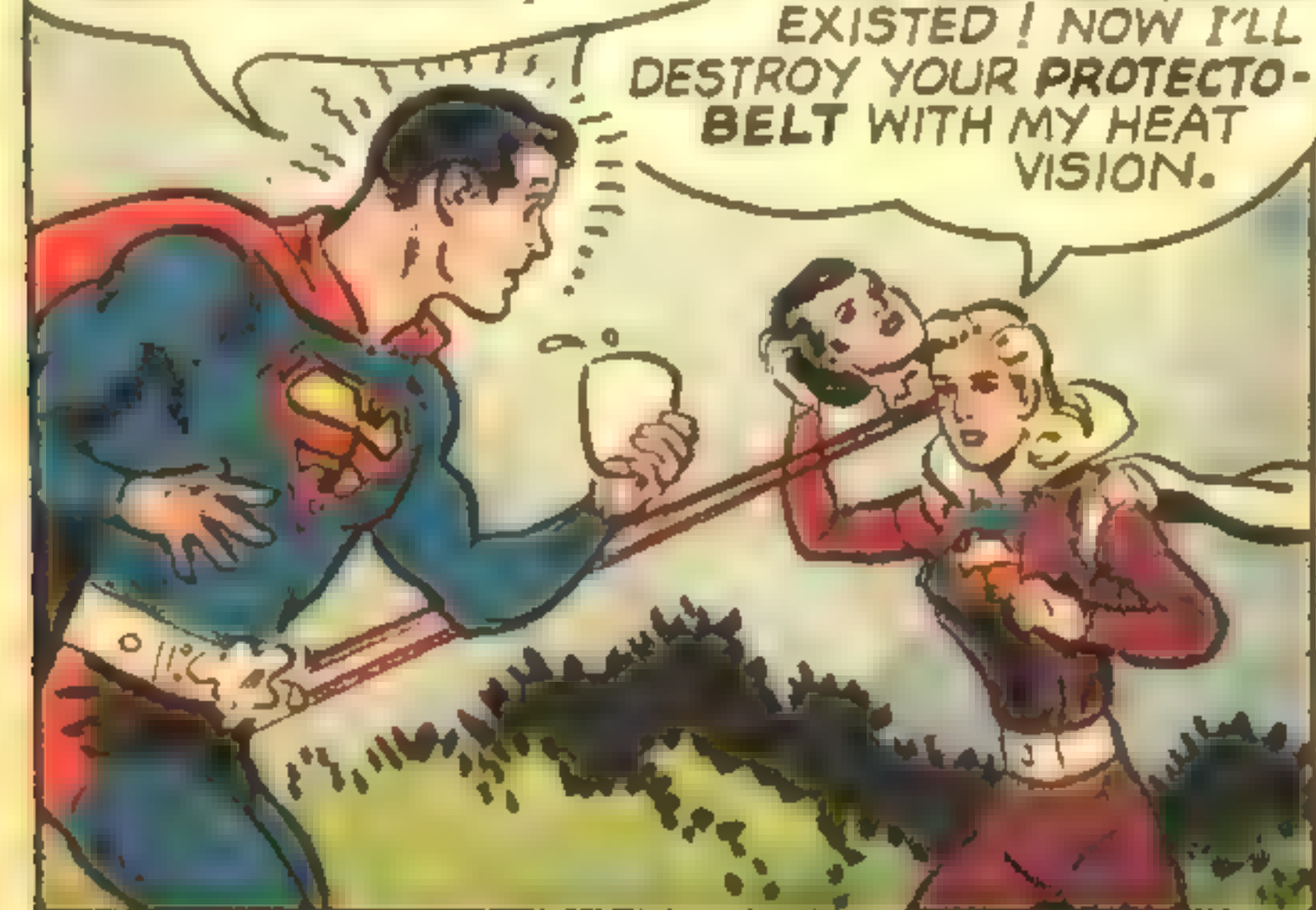
I'M CONVINCED! I'LL SWITCH OFF THE FORCE FIELD AND TRY SOME OF THAT ANTIDOTE MYSELF.



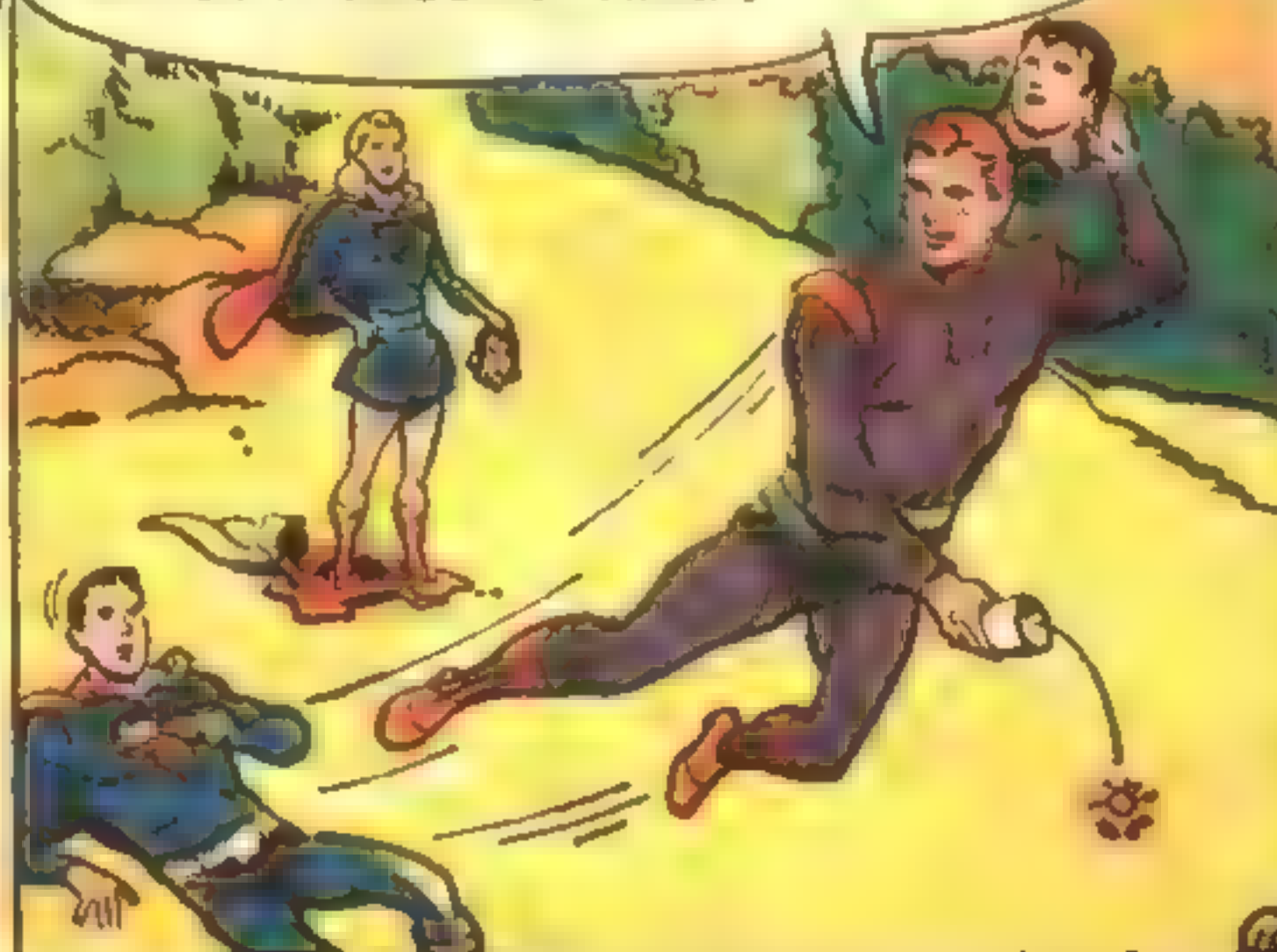
BUT AS SUPERBOY LIFTS THE CUP...

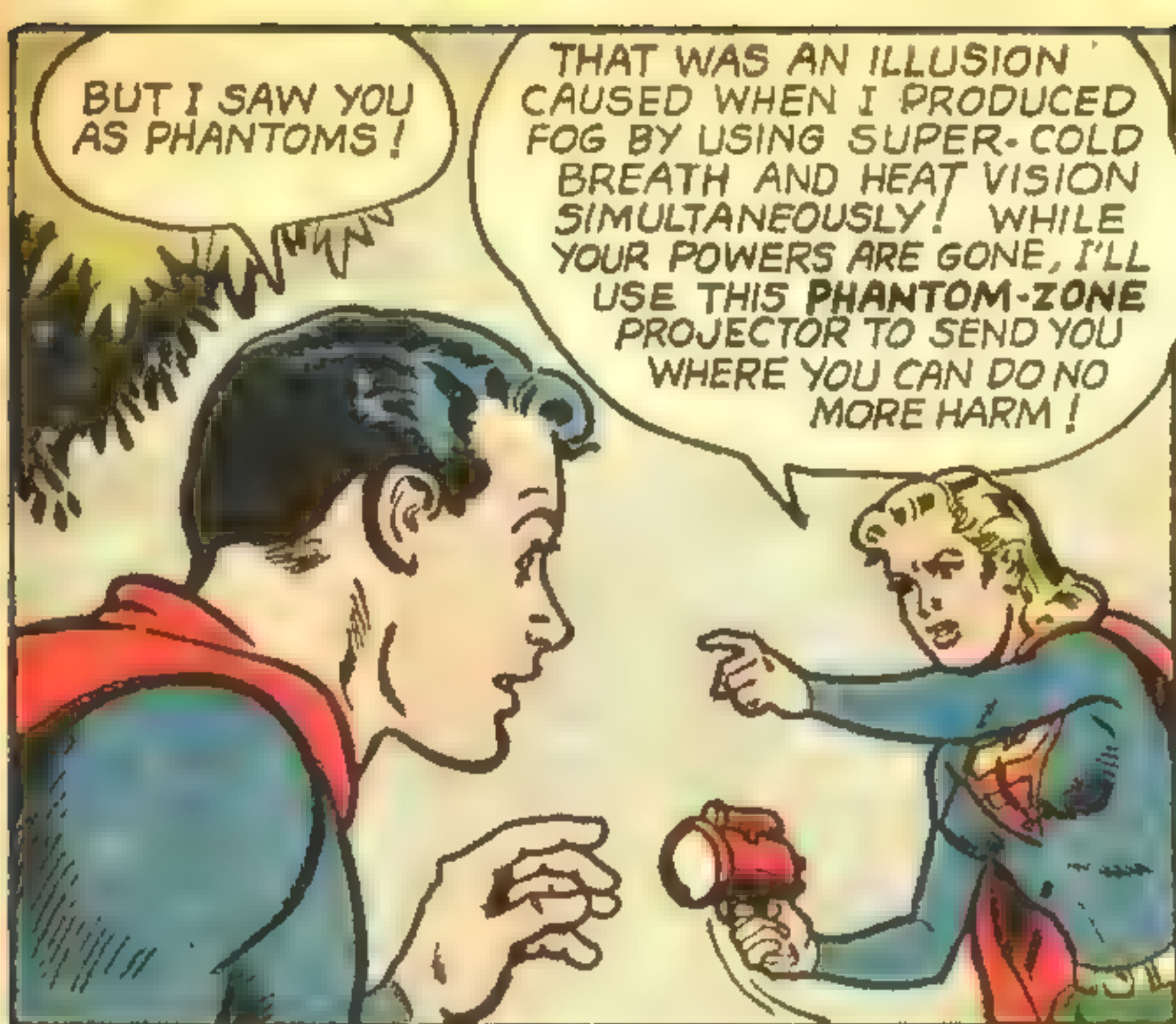
THAT TINGLING!... I'M BEING AFFECTED BY RED KRYPTONITE. I'M STARTING TO LOSE MY POWERS! WHAT HAPPENED?

WE TRICKED YOU! I'M REALLY SUPERWOMAN IN DISGUISE! TIR-AN AND VAN-DAL NEVER EXISTED! NOW I'LL DESTROY YOUR PROTECTO-BELT WITH MY HEAT VISION.



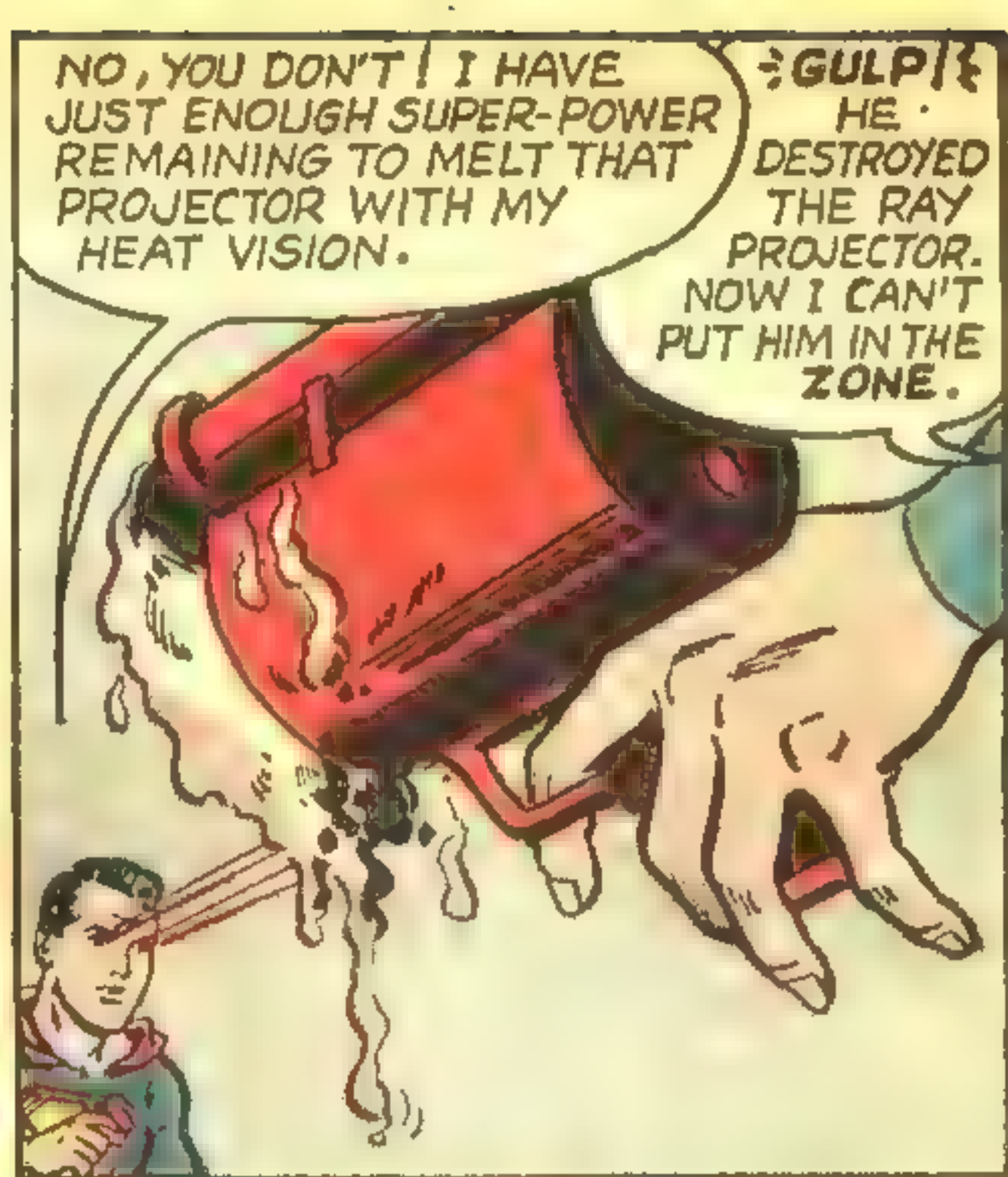
AND I'M SUPERWOMAN'S FRIEND, JIMMY OLSEN. I'M NOT REALLY SUPER! I'M FLYING WITH AN ANTI-GRAVITY BELT SUPERWOMAN GAVE ME! THE RED K PEBBLE IN THIS CUP ERASED YOUR POWERS TEMPORARILY. IT AFFECTED SUPERWOMAN BEFORE AND CAN'T DO SO A SECOND TIME!





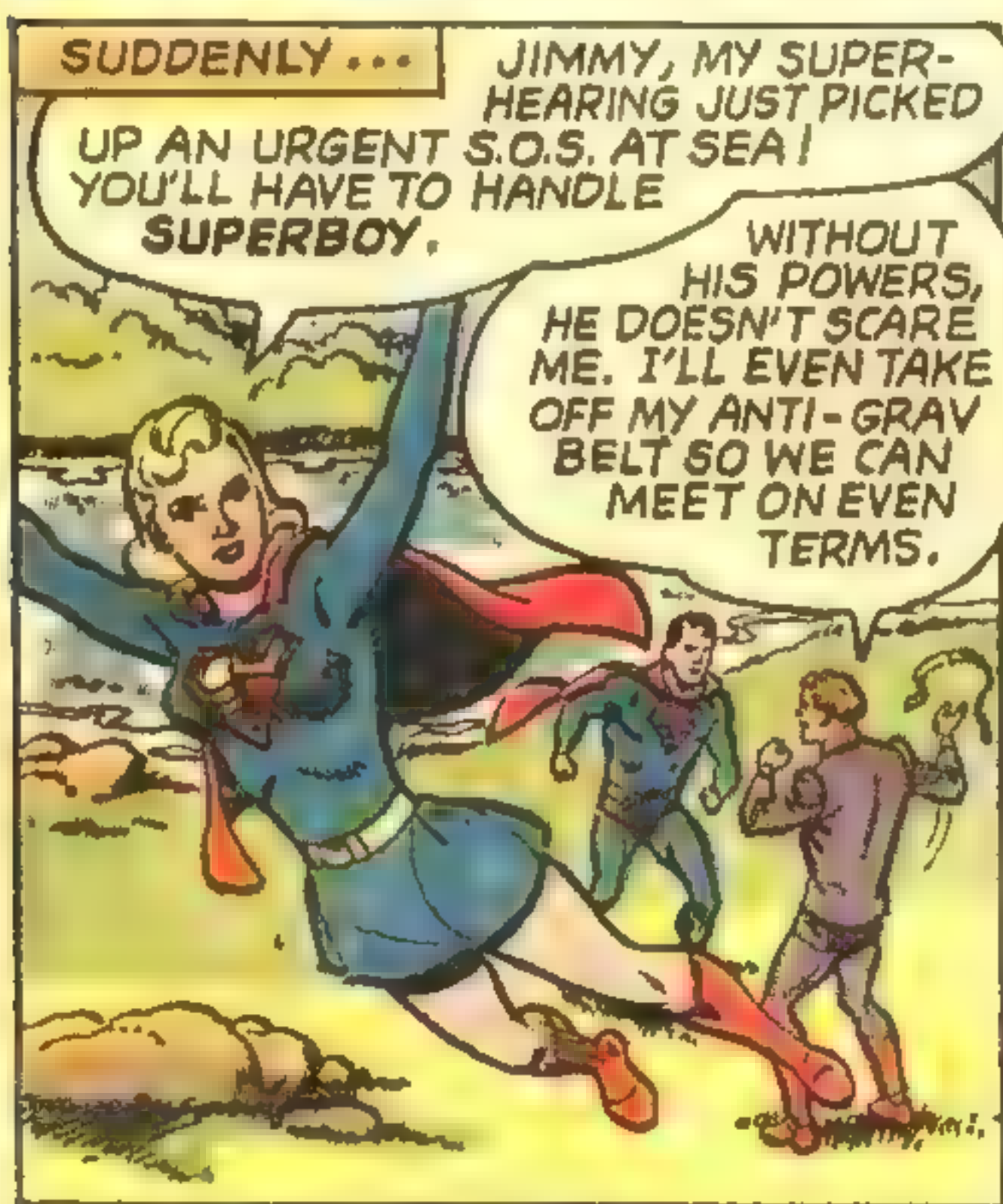
BUT I SAW YOU AS PHANTOMS!

THAT WAS AN ILLUSION CAUSED WHEN I PRODUCED FOG BY USING SUPER-COLD BREATH AND HEAT VISION SIMULTANEOUSLY! WHILE YOUR POWERS ARE GONE, I'LL USE THIS PHANTOM-ZONE PROJECTOR TO SEND YOU WHERE YOU CAN DO NO MORE HARM!



NO, YOU DON'T! I HAVE JUST ENOUGH SUPER-POWER REMAINING TO MELT THAT PROJECTOR WITH MY HEAT VISION.

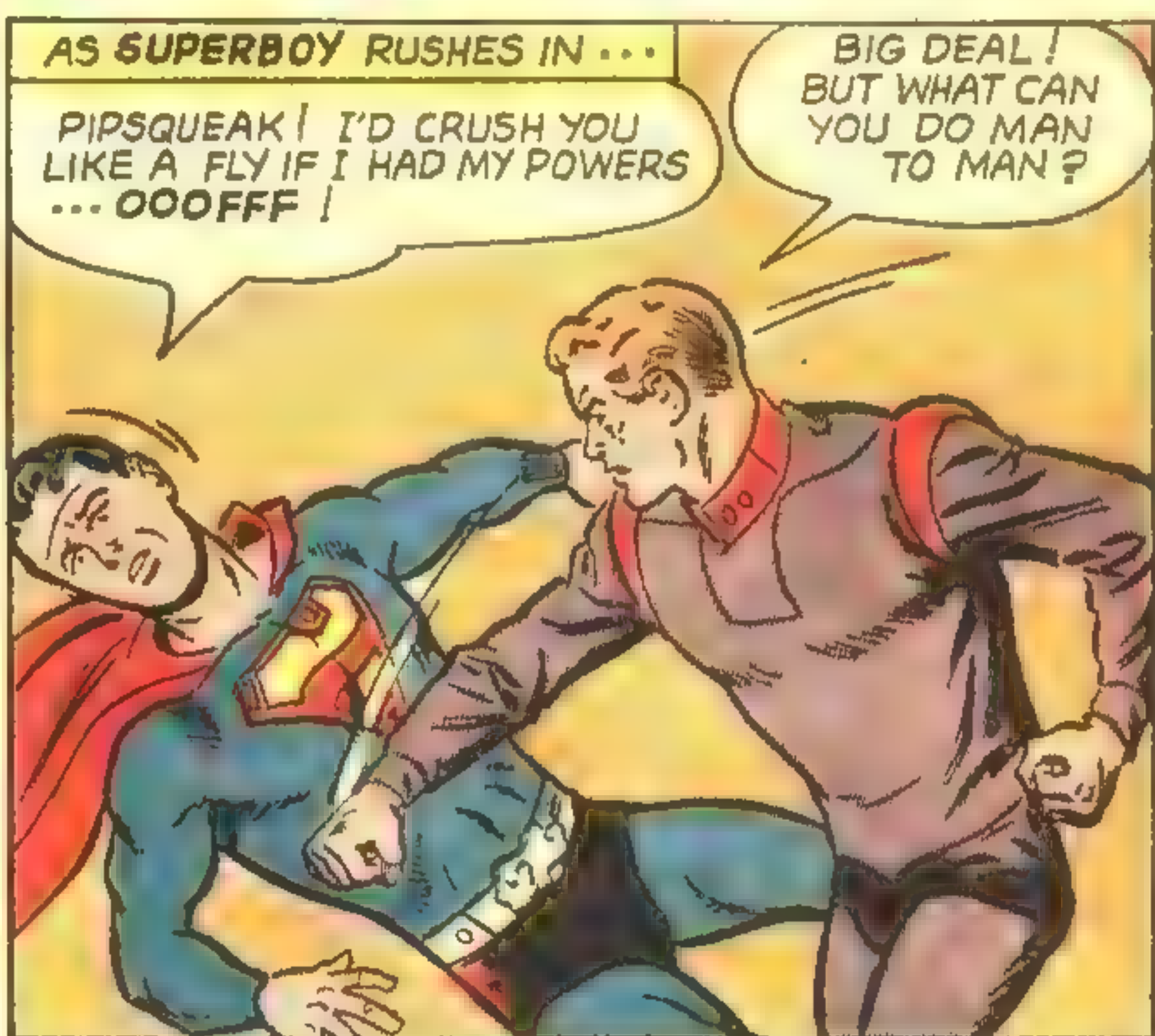
GULP! HE DESTROYED THE RAY PROJECTOR. NOW I CAN'T PUT HIM IN THE ZONE.



SUDDENLY ...

JIMMY, MY SUPER-HEARING JUST PICKED UP AN URGENT S.O.S. AT SEA! YOU'LL HAVE TO HANDLE SUPERBOY.

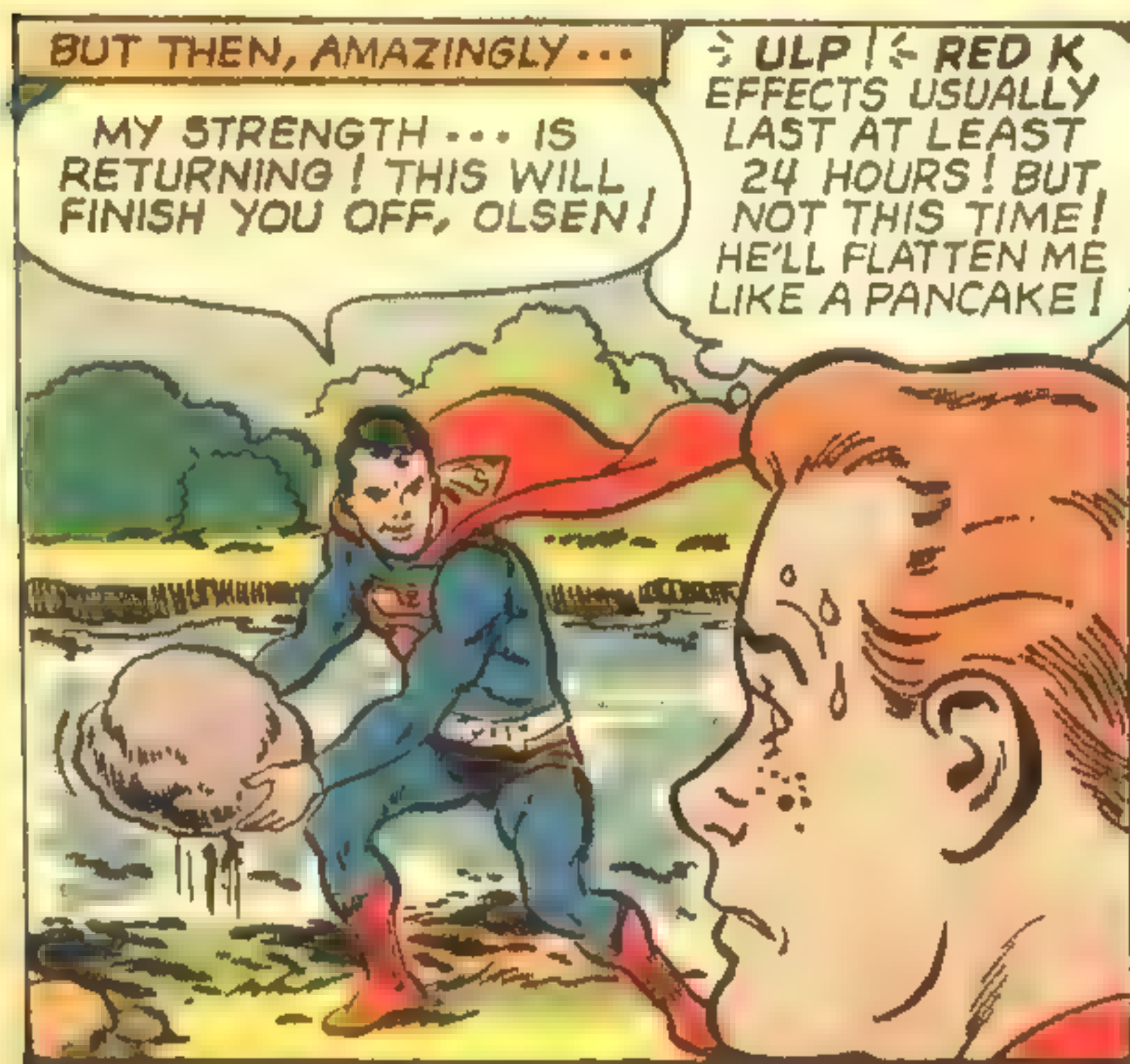
WITHOUT HIS POWERS, HE DOESN'T SCARE ME. I'LL EVEN TAKE OFF MY ANTI-GRAV BELT SO WE CAN MEET ON EVEN TERMS.



AS SUPERBOY RUSHES IN ...

PIPSQUEAK! I'D CRUSH YOU LIKE A FLY IF I HAD MY POWERS ... OOOFFF!

BIG DEAL! BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO MAN TO MAN?



BUT THEN, AMAZINGLY ...

MY STRENGTH ... IS RETURNING! THIS WILL FINISH YOU OFF, OLSEN!

ULP! RED K EFFECTS USUALLY LAST AT LEAST 24 HOURS! BUT NOT THIS TIME! HE'LL FLATTEN ME LIKE A PANCAKE!



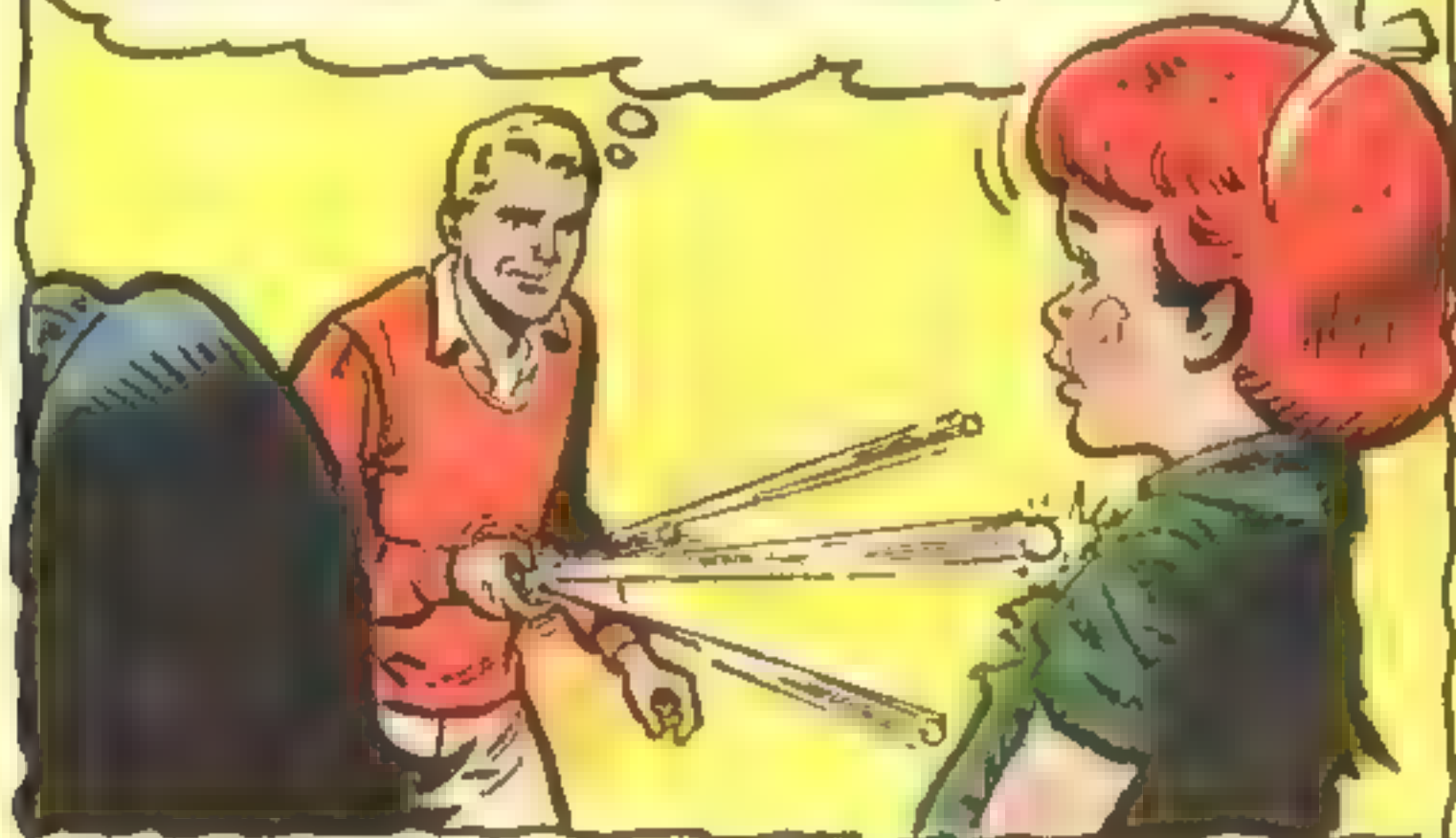
AT THAT INSTANT, SUPERWOMAN RETURNS... BUT HER HELP ISN'T NEEDED ...

I RUSHED THAT RESCUE, HOPING TO GET HERE BEFORE HIS POWERS CAME BACK... BUT... WHAT'S THIS?

GASP! MY POWERS... SUDDENLY VANISHED AGAIN! BUT I FELT NO RED KRYPTONITE TINGLING THIS TIME!

WHY DID **SUPERBOY** LOSE HIS POWERS? IT ALL BEGAN WHEN, IN HIS **CAL ELLIS** IDENTITY, HE DESTROYED HIS FELLOW ORPHAN'S DOLL COLLECTION.

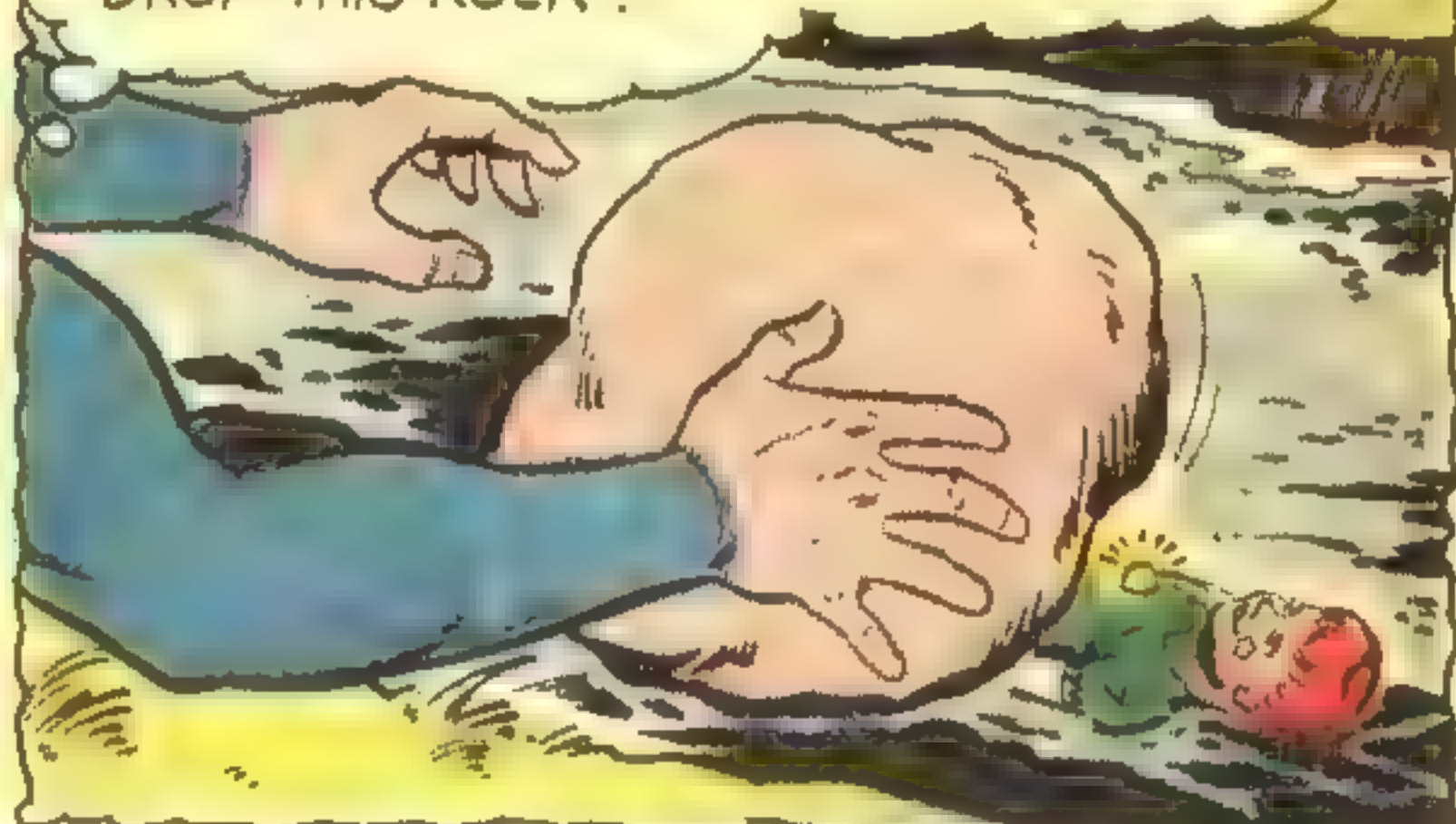
I'LL SHOOT THESE MARBLES AT THE DOLLS. IT WILL LOOK LIKE **DIANE** DESTROYED THEM HERSELF.



UNWITTINGLY, **CAL** HAD HURLED ONE OF THE LEAD-COATED **GOLD K** CAPSULES STOLEN FROM **SUPERWOMAN'S** FORTRESS.

DIANE DISCARDED THE DOLL CONTAINING THE CAPSULE IN A BROOK. IT FLOATED DOWNSTREAM AND LODGED UNDER A LEAD-BEARING BOULDER... THE SAME ONE WHICH **SUPERBOY** LIFTED AS A WEAPON... AND WHICH HAD RUBBED OFF SOME OF THE CAPSULE'S LEAD COATING!

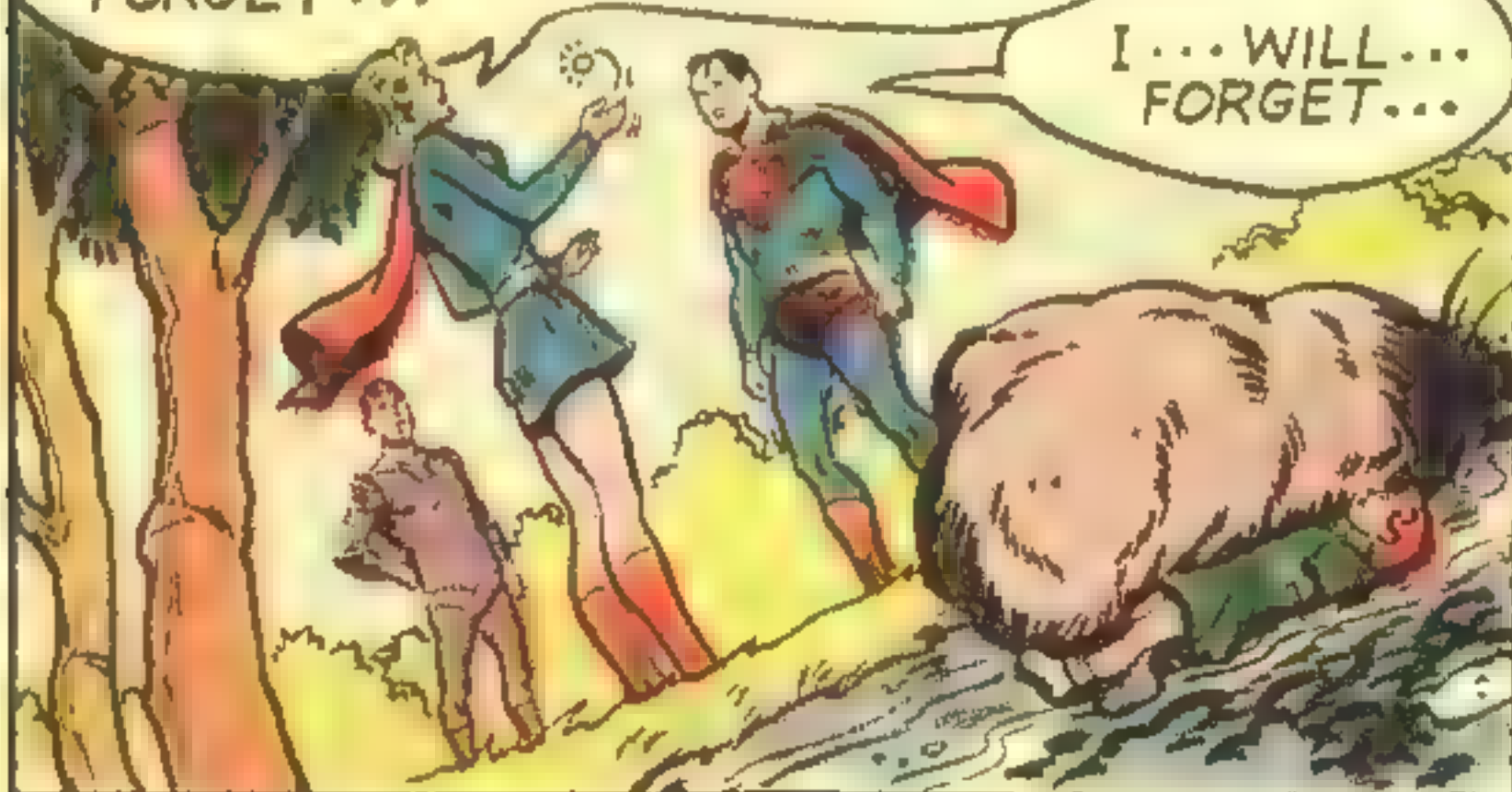
I THOUGHT MY STRENGTH WAS RETURNING, BUT I SUDDENLY...FEEL WEAK. I MUST... DROP THIS ROCK!



AND NOW, WITH THE **GOLD KRYPTONITE** CAPSULE SAFELY RE-BURIED UNDER THE BOULDER...

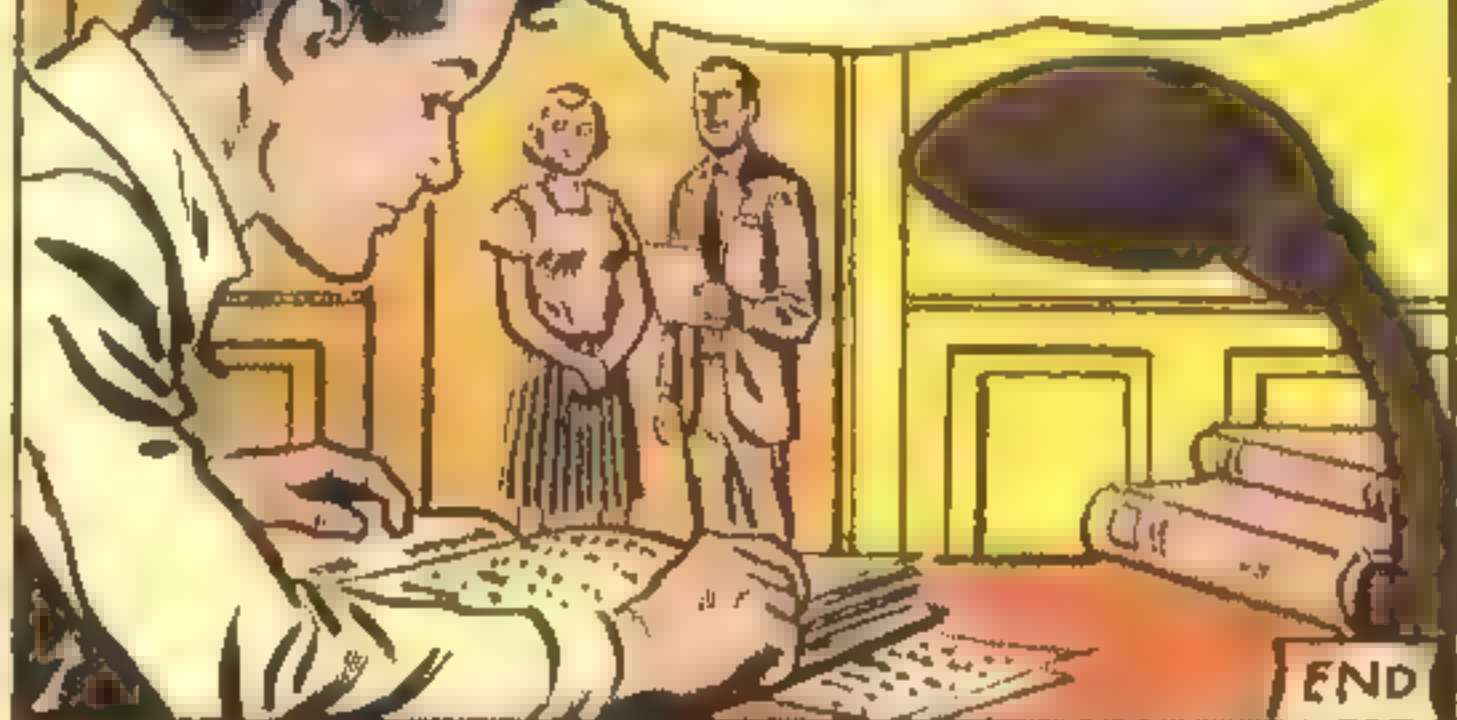
I SPOTTED THE **GOLD K** THAT STOLE YOUR POWERS... PERMANENTLY! TO CURE YOUR EVIL TENDENCIES, I'LL HYPNOTIZE YOU INTO FORGETTING YOUR PAST! THEN I'LL INVENT AN EXCUSE TO EXPLAIN "**CAL'S**" DISAPPEARANCE! WATCH THIS SPINNING COIN... AND FORGET...

I... WILL... FORGET...



AND SO, IN A DISTANT ORPHANAGE, AN UNKNOWN YOUTH AWAITS ADOPTION...

THE LAD SUFFERS FROM AMNESIA. HE KNOWS NOTHING OF HIS PAST, EXCEPT THAT HE'S AN ORPHAN. BUT HE'S VERY BRIGHT. HE'LL HAVE A GREAT FUTURE SOME DAY.



HOW IRONIC! IN REAL LIFE, **SUPERBOY** DID HAVE A GREAT FUTURE... AS **SUPERMAN**!

It's **No TEAM UP** This time!

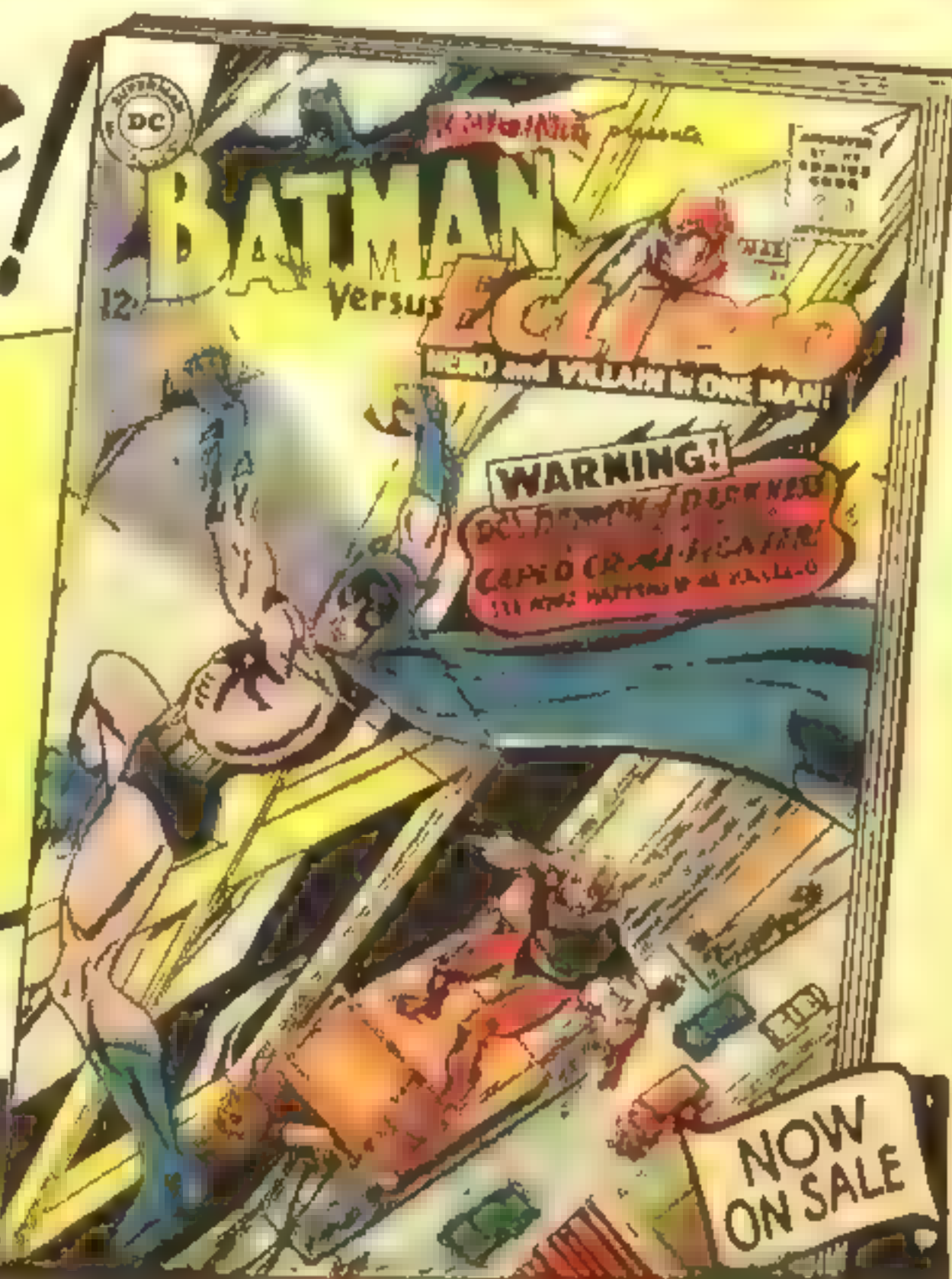
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The BRAVE and the BOLD #64



METROPOLIS MAILBAG

Dear Editor: S.O.S.! I have a serious problem. I'm 14 and I read your books. But some of my classmates, and even my parents, say I'm too old to read comics. I tell them that I find your mags interesting, as I am very science-minded, but they keep teasing me and say only kids read comics. Can you give me more ammunition to answer their tauntings? —Cliff Taylor, Rahway, N.J.

(We sure can! DC magazines are favorites with G.I.'s and officers all over the world. The Army PX's can't get enough of them to satisfy the demand. But that isn't all. Recently we attended a convention of comic book fans from all over the nation, which was written up in the August 21st, 1965, issue of the highly respected magazine, THE NEW YORKER. Among the hundreds of adults at the convention were teachers, scientists, even college professors! —Ed.)

Dear Editor: I recently read that Superman will be the basis of a Broadway musical comedy. When will it open? Who'll play Superman? Lois Lane? Jimmy Olsen? Perry White? Give us all the info, huh? —Sammy Fales, Houston, Tex.

(The forthcoming musical based on our Man of Steel is the talk of show business. The songs, which were written by the team that turned out "Bye-Bye, Birdie" and "Golden Boy," are bound to be hits. The show's tentative title is "It's Superman!" and it will be produced by David Merrick, Broadway's top impresario. While the cast hasn't been announced, rumor has it that Steve Allen may play Clark Kent. More details as soon as we get them. —Ed.)

Dear Editor: My brother and I worked all summer as ushers at Yankee Stadium so we could make enough money to buy a color TV set and watch Superman in color. But when we caught one show which featured Kryptonite, it looked BLUE! Was our color set malfunctioning? —Stanley Wilcox, Bronx, N.Y.

(Blame our prop man. When the script called for Kryptonite, he used a blue chunk, from the supply room, unaware that Blue K is used only in Bizarro stories. —Ed.)

Dear Editor: Why not let Supergirl have her own comic? She really deserves it. Please take this suggestion seriously instead of answering with a wisecrack. —Al Taylor, Birmingham, Ala.

(We're seriously thinking of launching our Kryptonian co-ed into solo orbit. The SUPERGIRL 80 PAGE GIANT we promised is in the works and will soon be hitting the stands. Get all your friends, particularly those who have never read Supergirl, to buy this GIANT, and the sell-out will convince our publishers that there are enough Supergirl-boosters to support her own magazine. Remember—it takes powerful boosters to put any payload into orbit! —Ed.)

Dear Editor: I enjoy reading Superman comics. The plots are always good, if not excellent. However, it seems almost ridiculous that Superman has never become conceited or self-centered. He is praised the

world over for his heroism and mighty deeds. Any normal person would eventually succumb and become at least a *little* swell-headed. —Vip Short, Glendora, Calif.

(Superman was swell-headed on one occasion—when he became a future Superman, with a gigantic brain that made his head about three times normal size. But of course, that turned out to be a hoax; in reality, Superman is super-modest. —Ed.)

Dear Editor: I got a real charge out of "The Strange 'S' Spell on Superman." Seeing the Man of Steel transformed into the Man Who Steals was quite an experience. Of course, Superman could have stolen any amount of money while under the spell. The dollar sign sure looks like an "S", doesn't it? —Pete Taylor, Jefferson City, Mo.

("Superman" starts with an "S", too. Maybe he should have kidnapped himself and held himself for ransom? —Ed.)

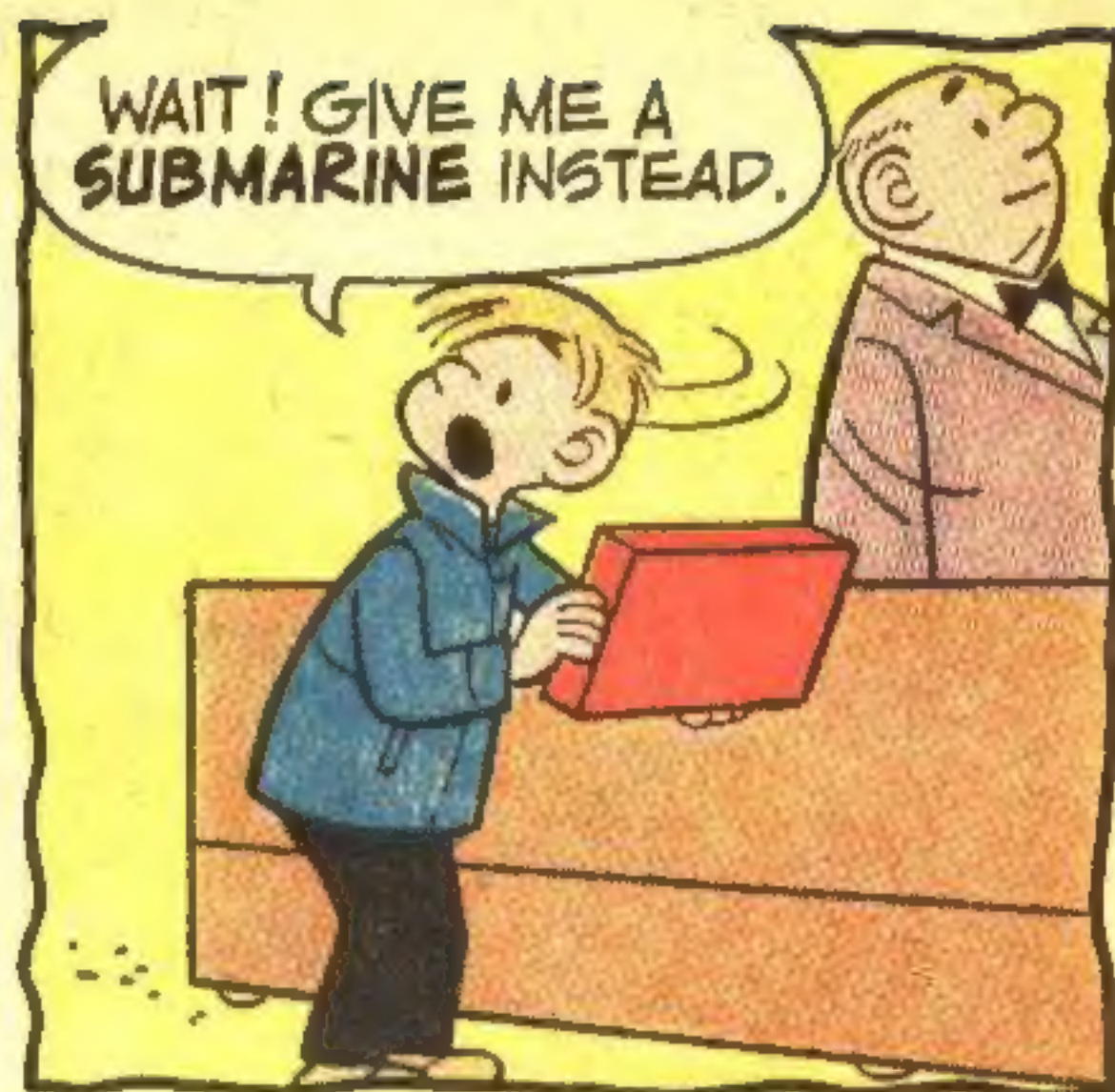
Dear Editor: The latest styles for women feature shorter skirts and high boots. Where do you suppose the designers got the idea? Not from a certain super-heroine we know—hmm? —Gwen Harding, Harrisburg, Pa.

(As readers of the January issue of BRAVE AND BOLD know, Supergirl spent her summer vacation in Paris as a fashion model. Far be it from us to accuse the designers there of swiping her costume style and adapting it to create a new vogue in female fashion. But we're used to being imitated—by magazines as well as mannequins. —Ed.)

Dear Editor: If some readers rap you for your current policy of running serials, don't take it to heart. Serials are the trend today. In TV, "The Man from U.N.C.-L.E." often runs two-parters, as do Dick Van Dyke, "Ben Casey," and others. "Dr. Kildare" is now a twice-weekly show that always takes several installments for each story; and "Lost in Space" is reminiscent of the old-time movie serials, always breaking off just when someone's in danger. "Peyton Place," which my mother follows, is on the air three times a week and goes on and on—it's an endless continued story, and has one of the highest ratings. And all ACTION fans will admit that the 8-part story you ran which led up to Supergirl's being revealed to the world was a milestone in the magazine's history. So keep on giving us those sensational serials and run them to marathon lengths. —Joe Willis, Annapolis, Md.

(Our zooming circulation is evidence of the popularity of our serials. Incidentally, many readers tell us they save each of the installments until the serial is finished and then read them all in one sitting. Try it—if you've got the will power not to peek in advance. —Ed.)

Send all comments for this department to METROPOLIS MAILBAG, National Periodical Publications, Inc., 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Because of the heavy volume of mail received, we regret that no letters can be answered individually.



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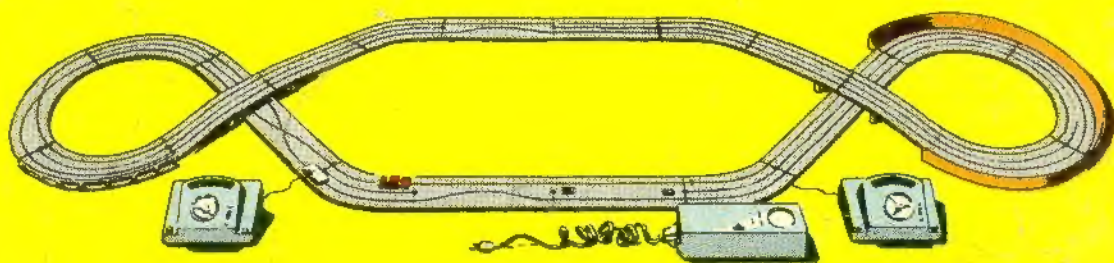
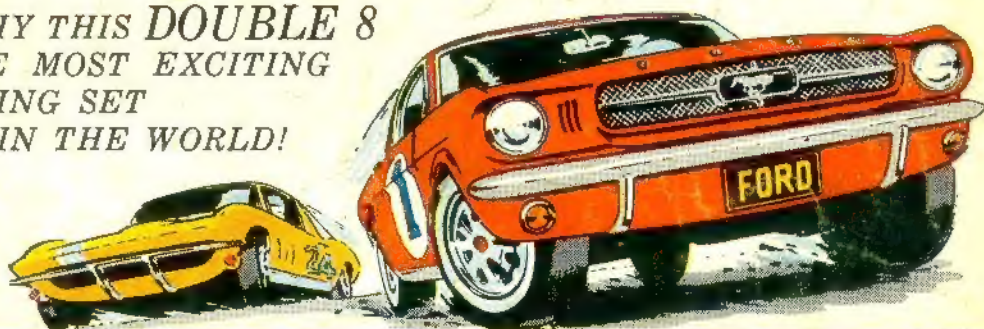
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